State of California

Statutes of Interest for County Treasurer-Tax Collectors 2019



BETTY T. YEE

California State Controller's Office



December 9, 2019

Re:	Statutes of Interest for County Treasurer-Tax Collectors

To County Tax Collectors and Staff:

I am pleased to present the 2019 *Statutes of Interest for County Treasurer-Tax Collectors* booklet. This publication provides pertinent information on significant statutory code changes as a result of legislation enacted in 2019 that may impact your operations.

The booklet is divided into two sections: "Enacted Legislation," which details the bills that have been signed by the Governor and "Section with Changes," detailing amendments, repeals, and additions to code. Bold and italicized text indicates new language added to the code section. Strike-through text indicates language that has been deleted from the code section. Please be aware that most changes will take effect on January 1, 2020. Consequently, language will not be updated on the California Legislative Information website, leginfo.legislature.ca.gov, until January 2020.

You may view, save, or print this publication from the State Controller's Office webpage at http://www.sco.ca.gov/pubs_guides.html.

If you have questions, please contact the State Controller's Office by email at propertytax@sco.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Originally Signed By

LACEY BAYSINGER, Supervisor

State Controller's Office

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Section I – Enacted Legislation

AB 133 Property tax postponement.

Chapter 794

Effective Date 1/1/2020

Description: This bill lowers the rate of interest on property tax postponement payments from 7% per annum to 5% per annum and revises the income limitations for a claimant's household to \$45,000.

Codes Affected: An act to amend Section 16183 of the Government Code, and to amend Section 20585 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, relating to taxation, and making an appropriation therefor.

AB 173 Mobilehomes: payments: nonpayment or late payments.

Chapter 488

Effective Date 1/1/2020

Description: This bill extends the date for an application for the Register Your Mobilehome Program to December 31, 2020. This bill requires a county tax collector to issue a tax liability certificate to a person with a conditional transfer of title who applies for the certificate prior to January 1, 2021. This bill prohibits the applicant from being eligible if the applicant, or a previous owner, took ownership interest on or after January 1, 2017, pursuant to a warehouseman's lien.

Codes Affected: An act to amend Sections 18116.1 and 18550.1 of the Health and Safety Code, and to amend Section 5832 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, relating to mobilehomes.

AB 498 Business licensing: fees: exemptions: veterans.

Chapter 227

Effective Date 1/1/2020

Description: This bill exempts a veteran who is honorably discharged or honorably relieved from the Armed Forces of the United States and is a resident of this state from paying any local business license fees for a business that sells or provides services if the veteran is the sole proprietor of the business.

Codes Affected: An act to add Section 16001.8 to the Business and Professions Code, relating to business licensing.

AB 587 Accessory dwelling units: sale or separate conveyance.

Chapter 657

Effective Date 1/1/2020

Description: The bill authorizes a local agency to allow, an accessory dwelling unit that was built or developed by a qualified nonprofit that is receiving a welfare exemption to sell or convey those units to low-income families separately from the primary residence.

Codes Affected: An act to add Section 65852.26 to the Government Code, relating to land use.

AB 608 Property taxation: exemption: low-value properties.

Chapter 92

Effective Date 7/12/2019

Description: This bill allows a county board of supervisors to potentially increase its low value exemption ordinance from \$10,000 to \$50,000 for all possessory interests for lien dates commencing on or after January 1, 2020, and before January 1, 2025.

Codes Affected: An act to amend Section 155.20 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, relating to taxation, to take effect immediately, tax levy.

AB 632 Counties: offices: consolidation.

Chapter 62

Effective Date 1/1/2020

Description: This bill authorizes the board of supervisors of the County of Lake to consolidate the duties of the offices of Auditor-Controller and Treasurer-Tax Collector into the elected office of Auditor-Controller-Treasurer-Tax Collector when a vacancy in either the office of Auditor-Controller or in the office of Treasurer-Tax Collector occurs.

Codes Affected: An act to amend Section 24304.2 of the Government Code, relating to local government.

AB 723 Transactions and use taxes: County of Alameda: Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District. Chapter 747

Effective Date 1/1/2020

Description: This bill exempts transactions and use taxes imposed by the San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District from counting towards the statutory 2% combined rate cap.

Codes Affected: An act to amend Sections 29140 and 98290 of the Public Utilities Code, and to amend Section 7292.2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, relating to taxation.

AB 857 Public banks.

Chapter 442

Effective Date 1/1/2020

Description: This bill provides for the establishment of a public bank by a local agency, subject to approval by the Department of Business Oversight (DBO) and Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC).

Codes Affected: An act to amend Sections 5130 and 7130 of the Corporations Code, to amend Sections 119, 1004, and 1100 of, and to add Section 1008 to, the Financial Code, to amend

Sections 6254.26, 23007, 53601, 53635, and 53635.2 of, to add Division 5 (commencing with Section 57600) to Title 5 of, and to add Sections 6254.35, 54956.97, and 54956.98 to, the Government Code, and to add Section 23701aa to the Revenue and Taxation Code, relating to public banks.

AB 945 Local government: financial affairs: surplus funds.

Chapter 619

Effective Date 1/1/2020

Description: This bill authorizes a local agency to invest and deposit surplus funds at specified types of financial institutions whether those investments are in certificates of deposit or another form. This bill from January 1, 2020, until January 1, 2026, also increases to 50% the percentage of funds that can be invested by a city, district, or other local agency that does not pool money in deposits or investments with other local agencies with a different governing body.

Codes Affected: An act to amend and repeal Section 53635.8 of, and to amend, repeal, and add Section 53601.8 of, the Government Code, relating to local government.

AB 1361 Civil actions: satisfaction of money judgments.

Chapter 48

Effective Date 1/1/2020

Description: This bill provides that payment in satisfaction of a money judgment, or a severable portion thereof, does not constitute a waiver of the right to appeal, except under certain circumstances.

Codes Affected: An act to add Section 695.215 to the Code of Civil Procedure, relating to civil actions.

AB 1637 Unclaimed Property Law.

Chapter 320

Effective Date 1/1/2020

Description: This bill authorizes the State Controller to transfer property reported to the state under the Unclaimed Property Law (UPL) in the name of a local agency or state agency to that agency without the filing of a claim by the agency.

Codes Affected: An act to amend Section 1540 of the Code of Civil Procedure, relating to civil actions.

AB 1743 Local government: properties eligible to claim or receiving a welfare exemption.

Chapter 665

Effective Date 1/1/2020

Description: This bill expands the properties that are exempt from community facility district (CFD) taxes to include properties that qualify for the property tax welfare exemption, and limits the ability for local agencies to reject housing projects because they qualify for the exemption.

Codes Affected: An act to amend Sections 53340, 65008, and 65589.5 of the Government Code, relating to local government.

SB 34 Cannabis: donations.

Chapter 837

Effective Date 1/1/2020

Description: This bill allows cannabis licensees to donate cannabis and cannabis products to medicinal cannabis patients who have difficulty assessing cannabis or cannabis products, and exempts such products from taxation.

Codes Affected: An act to amend Sections 26001, 26153, 26161, and 26162.5 of, and to add Section 26071 to, the Business and Professions Code, and to amend Sections 34010, 34011, and 34012 of, and to add and repeal Sections 6414 and 34012.1 of, the Revenue and Taxation Code, relating to cannabis.

SB 187 Rosenthal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act.

Chapter 545

Effective Date 1/1/2020

Description: This bill provides that consumer debt for purposes of the act includes mortgage debt. The bill also removes the exception for an attorney or counselor at law from the definition of debt collector.

Codes Affected: An act to amend Section 1788.2 of the Civil Code, relating to debt collection.

SB 196 Property taxes: community land trust.

Chapter 669

Effective Date 1/1/2020

Description: This bill enacts a new welfare exemption from property tax for property owned by a community land trust.

Codes Affected: An act to amend Sections 75.11, 402.1, and 532 of, and to add and repeal Section 214.18 of, the Revenue and Taxation Code, relating to taxation.

SB 249 Land use: Subdivision Map Act: expiration dates.

Chapter 366

Effective Date 9/27/2019

Description: The bill authorizes a legislative body within Butte County to extend the expiration date, by up to 36 months, of any approved tentative map or vesting tentative map that was approved on or after January 1, 2006, and no later than March 31, 2019, and that it relates to the construction of single or multifamily housing.

Codes Affected: An act to add Section 66452.27 to the Government Code, relating to land use, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.

SB 616 Enforcement of money judgments: exemptions.

Chapter 552

Effective Date 1/1/2020

Description: This bill gives an account holder subject to levy the following deadlines to file a claim of exemption: 15 days from personal service of the notice of levy; or 20 days from the date the notice of levy was deposited in the mail, if service of the notice is accomplished by mail. Gives a judgement creditor 15 days in which to file an objection to a claim of exemption. Exempts from levy all funds in a bank account provided to the account holder by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

Codes Affected: An act to amend Sections 699.520, 699.540, and 704.070 of, to amend, repeal, and add Sections 703.520 and 703.550 of, and to add Sections 704.220, 704.225, and 704.230 to, the Code of Civil Procedure, relating to civil actions.

SB 789 Local government: administration.

Chapter 258

Effective Date 1/1/2020

Description: This bill requires the treasurer to secure, by separate agreement or contract, services for the transportation of money to and from the depository if, pursuant to a contract between the treasurer and the depository, the depository is not required to bear the expense of those services. This bill increases the threshold for a cash difference fund from \$10 to \$20. Excess proceeds claim must be postmarked on or before the one-year expiration date.

Codes Affected: An act to amend Section 53639 of the Government Code, and to amend Sections 2611.5, 2635, 4675, 4717, and 5097.2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, relating to local government.

SB 791 Property taxation: valuation: certificated aircraft.

Chapter 333

Effective Date 9/20/2019

Description: This bill changes the method to calculate California's share of total aircraft value owned by commercial air carriers for property tax purposes and re-establishes streamlined administrative procedures for counties and air carriers.

Codes Affected: An act to amend Section 441 of, to amend and add Section 1152 of, to add Sections 1153.5 and 1157 to, and to repeal Section 1153 of, the Revenue and Taxation Code, relating to taxation, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.

Section II – Section with Changes

AB 133, Chapter 794

Property tax postponement. Effective Date 1/1/2020

SECTION 1.

Section 16183 of the Government Code is amended to read:

16183.

- (a) From the time a payment is made pursuant to Section 16180, the amount of that payment shall bear interest at a rate (not compounded), determined as follows:
- (1) Beginning July 1, 2020, the rate of interest shall be 5 percent per annum.
- (1) (2) Beginning July 1, 2016, *until June 30, 2020*, the rate of interest shall be 7 percent per annum.
- (2) (3) The Controller shall establish an adjusted rate of interest for the purpose of this subdivision not later than July 15th of any year if the effective annual yield of the Pooled Money Investment Account for the prior fiscal year is at least a full percentage point more or less than the interest rate which is then in effect. The adjusted rate of interest shall be equal per annum to the effective annual yield earned in the prior fiscal year by the Pooled Money Investment Account rounded to the nearest full percent, and shall become effective for new deferrals, beginning on July 1, 1984, and on July 1 of each immediately succeeding year, until June 30, 2016.
- (3) (4) For loans made prior to June 30, 2016, the rate of interest provided pursuant to this subdivision for the first fiscal year commencing after payment is made pursuant to Section 16180 shall apply for that fiscal year and each fiscal year thereafter until these postponed property taxes are repaid.
- (b) The interest provided for in subdivision (a) shall be applied beginning the first day of the month following the month in which that payment is made and continuing on the first day of each month thereafter until that amount is paid. In the event that any payments are applied, in any month, to reduce the amount paid pursuant to Section 16180, the interest provided for herein shall be applied to the balance of that amount beginning on the first day of the following month.
- (c) In computing interest in accordance with this section, fractions of a cent shall be disregarded.
- (d) For the purpose of this section, the time a payment is made shall be deemed to be the time a payment is made by the Controller to the tax collector or the delinquency date of the respective tax installment, whichever is later.
- (e) The Controller shall include on forms supplied to claimants pursuant to Sections 20621, 20630.5, 20639.9, 20640.9, and 20641 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, a statement of the interest rate which shall apply to amounts postponed for the fiscal year to which the form applies.

SEC. 2.

Section 20585 of the Revenue and Taxation Code is amended to read:

20585.

(a) Postponement shall not be allowed under this chapter, Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 20625), Chapter 3.3 (commencing with Section 20639), or Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section

20640) if household income exceeds thirty-five thousand five hundred dollars (\$35,500). the following:

- (1) Beginning July 1, 2016, to June 30, 2020, inclusive, thirty-five thousand five hundred dollars (\$35,500).
- (2) Beginning July 1, 2020, forty-five thousand dollars (\$45,000).
- (b) (1) Beginning January 1, 2021, and for each assessment year thereafter, the household income limit shall be compounded annually by an inflation factor that is the percentages of increase in the California Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers and in the California Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers of December of the prior calendar year over December of the preceding calendar year, as determined by the Department of Industrial Relations.
- (2) The Controller shall compute an inflation adjustment factor by adding 100 percent to the larger of the California Consumer Price Index percentage increases furnished pursuant to paragraph (1).

AB 173, Chapter 488

Mobilehomes: payments: nonpayment or late payments. Effective Date 1/1/2020

SECTION 1.

Section 18116.1 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

18116.1.

- (a) Nonpayment of the fees and penalties provided for in Sections 18114, 18114.1, and 18115, and in subdivisions (a), (b), (c), and (d) of Section 18116 that are due on a mobilehome, manufactured home, commercial coach, truck camper, or floating home shall constitute a lien in favor of the State of California in the amount owing.
- (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the lien provided for in subdivision (a) shall include all fees and penalties due and unpaid beginning with the fees for original registration that became delinquent for 120 days or more and continue to accrue to include all fees and penalties that subsequently become due and remain unpaid.
- (c) Until the amount of a lien provided for in subdivision (a) or (b) is paid to the department, the department shall not do either of the following:
- (1) Amend the permanent title record of the manufactured home, mobilehome, commercial coach, truck camper, or floating home which is the subject of the lien for the purpose of transferring any ownership interest or transferring or creating any security interest in the manufactured home, mobilehome, commercial coach, truck camper, or floating home.
- (2) Issue any duplicate, substitute, or new certificate of title, registration card, or copy of a registration card with respect to the manufactured home, mobilehome, commercial coach, truck camper, or floating home which is the subject of the lien.
- (d) (1) When application is made to the department for registration or transfer of registration of a manufactured home or mobilehome, and the applicant is not currently the registered owner, with pursuant to the Register Your Mobilehome Program operated by the department in accordance with this subdivision, with respect to all charges assessed by the department prior to

- the date the title or interest in the manufactured home or mobilehome was transferred to the applicant, the department shall release any lien imposed pursuant to this chapter and waive all outstanding charges assessed by the department, if all of the following requirements are met:
- (A) The applicant provides documentation demonstrating to the satisfaction of the department ownership and the date of acquisition of ownership interest pursuant to Section 18100.5 or 18102.5.
- (B) The applicant, or a previous owner, did not take ownership interest on or after January 1, 2017, pursuant to a warehouseman's lien.
- (B) (C) The application is made prior to December 31, 2019. 2020.
- (C) (D) The applicant pays any charges assessed by the department during the period between the time the applicant took ownership interest or December 31, 2015, whichever is later, and the time the applicant applies for relief pursuant to this subdivision.
- (D) (E) The applicant has not previously filed for relief pursuant to this subdivision.
- (E) (F) Any lien pursuant to Section 16182 of the Government Code has been satisfied.
- (2) If the applicant meets the requirements of paragraph (1) and the other requirements of this chapter not related to nonpayment or late payment of the department's charges, fees, and penalties related to registration and titling, the department shall waive the outstanding charges, fees, or penalties identified in paragraph (1), amend the title record, and issue a duplicate, substitute, or new certificate of title, registration card, or copy of a registration card with respect to the manufactured home or mobilehome, in conformance with this chapter.
- (3) For purposes of any amounts owing pursuant to this subdivision, the department may establish a long term payment program of up to five years. The department may provide that any amounts owing under the payment program shall constitute a lien in favor of the State of California in the amount owing and shall be paid in full if the manufactured home or mobilehome is subsequently transferred. Failure to make the payments required by the plan is a violation of this chapter for which the department may suspend, revoke, or cancel the certificate of title pursuant to Section 18122.
- (4) (A) If the manufactured home or mobilehome for which an application has been submitted and approved pursuant to this subdivision and the other requirements of this chapter not related to nonpayment or late payment of the department's charges, fees, and penalties related to registration and titling, is subject to local property taxation, the department shall issue a conditional transfer of title.
- (B) Upon presentation of a completed tax liability certificate as provided in subdivision (f) of Section 5832 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, if the applicant meets all of the requirements of this section and the other requirements of this chapter not related to nonpayment or late payment of the department's charges, fees, and penalties related to registration and titling, and the requirements of paragraph (2) are met, the department shall amend the title record and issue a duplicate, substitute, or new certificate of title.
- (e) On or before July 1, 2021, the department shall publish an analysis of manufactured home and mobilehome registration that came into compliance through the Register Your Mobilehome Program pursuant to subdivision (d). The analysis shall include whether each unit is subject to an in-lieu tax or to local property taxation, and the number of units for which a waiver of taxes assessed by the department prior to the transfer of title of the manufactured home or mobilehome was requested.

SEC. 2.

Section 18550.1 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

18550.1.

On and after January 1, 2020, 2021,

SEC. 3.

Section 5832 of the Revenue and Taxation Code is amended to read:

- (a) (1) Upon application, the county tax collector shall issue a tax clearance certificate or a conditional tax clearance certificate.
- (2) Any tax clearance certificate issued shall be used to permit registration of used manufactured homes and for any other purposes that may be prescribed by the Controller. The certificate may indicate that the county tax collector finds that no local property tax is due or is likely to become due, or that any applicable local property taxes have been paid or are to be paid in a manner not requiring the withholding of registration or the transfer of registration.
- (3) Any conditional tax clearance certificate issued shall indicate that the county tax collector finds that a tax liability exists, the amount due, and the final date that amount may be paid before a further tax liability is incurred. The certificate shall be in any form that the Controller may prescribe, and shall be executed, issued, and accepted for clearance of registration or permit issuance on the conditions which the Controller may prescribe.
- (b) Within five working days of receipt of the written demand for a conditional tax clearance certificate or tax clearance certificate, the county tax collector shall forward the conditional tax clearance certificate or tax clearance certificate, showing no tax liability exists, to the requesting escrow officer. In the event the final due date of the tax clearance certificate or conditional tax clearance certificate expires within 30 days of the date of its issuance, an additional conditional tax clearance certificate or tax clearance certificate shall be completed, which has a final due date of at least 30 days beyond the date of issuance. The tax collector shall not charge a fee for the issuance of a certificate unless a previously issued tax clearance certificate or conditional tax clearance certificate expires prior to the date upon which title transfers. The fee for the issuance of a subsequent certificate with respect to that manufactured home shall be an amount equal to the actual costs of preparing and processing that certificate.
- (c) If the tax collector fails to comply with the demand within 30 days from the date the demand is mailed, the escrow officer may close the escrow in accordance with the provisions of subdivision (m) of Section 18035 of the Health and Safety Code.
- (d) Notwithstanding any provisions of law requiring the tax collector to issue a tax clearance certificate or conditional tax clearance certificate within a specified period of time, when an escrow information demand is made pursuant to Section 18035 of the Health and Safety Code for a manufactured home that has not been enrolled in the county, the tax collector shall be afforded the number of working days necessary for the assessor to determine the value of the manufactured home and for the auditor to extend tax liability.

- (e) The issuance, alteration, forgery, or use of any tax clearance certificate or conditional certificate in a manner contrary to the requirements of the Controller constitutes a misdemeanor.
- (f) (1) Prior to January 1, 2020, 2021, a person with a conditional transfer of title as described in subparagraph (A) of paragraph (4) of subdivision (d) of Section 18116.1 of the Health and Safety Code may apply to the tax collector to issue either a tax liability or tax clearance certificate. The county tax collector shall issue a tax liability certificate if the person pays the taxes reasonably owed from the date of sale as shown on the conditional transfer of title, without penalties or interest, and not to exceed the amounts attributable one year prior to January 1, 2017.
- (2) Upon issuance of a tax clearance or liability certificate, the applicant shall be listed as the owner of record for all local property tax purposes and the home shall not be subject to lien or seizure based on any taxes, penalties, or interest as noted on the certificate issued pursuant to paragraph (1). The tax collector shall notify the assessor and other county agencies of the change.
- (3) This subdivision does not relieve any owner other than the applicant from tax liability, including penalties and interest, arising from nonpayment prior to the date of sale, or prohibit a county tax collector from collecting delinquent taxes, penalties, or interest due prior to the date of sale, from any owner other than the applicant.

SEC. 4.

The Legislature finds and declares that the abatement of taxes, penalties, and interest incurred prior to the date of sale of a mobilehome or manufactured home to an applicant, as described in this act, serves a public purpose and does not constitute a gift of public funds within the meaning of Section 6 of Article XVI of the California Constitution.

SEC. 5.

If the Commission on State Mandates determines that this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

SEC. 6.

Notwithstanding Section 2229 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, no appropriation is made by this act and the state shall not reimburse any local agency for any property tax revenues lost by it pursuant to this act.

AB 498, Chapter 227

Business licensing: fees: exemptions: veterans.

Effective Date 1/1/2020

SECTION 1.

Section 16001.8 is added to the Business and Professions Code, to read:

16001.8.

- (a) A veteran who is honorably discharged or honorably relieved from the Armed Forces of the United States and is a resident of this state shall not be required to pay any local business license fees for a business selling or providing services if the veteran is the sole proprietor of the business.
- (b) The Legislature finds and declares that the prohibition on the imposition of local business license fees on veterans as specified in this section is a matter of statewide concern and is not a

municipal affair, as that term is used in Section 5 of Article XI of the California Constitution. Therefore, this section applies to all cities, including charter cities.

AB 587, Chapter 657

Accessory dwelling units: sale or separate conveyance. Effective Date 1/1/2020

SECTION 1.

Section 65852.26 is added to the Government Code, immediately following Section 65852.25, to read:

65852.26.

- (a) Notwithstanding clause (i) of subparagraph (D) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) of Section 65852.2, a local agency may, by ordinance, allow an accessory dwelling unit to be sold or conveyed separately from the primary residence to a qualified buyer if all of the following apply:
- (1) The property was built or developed by a qualified nonprofit corporation.
- (2) There is an enforceable restriction on the use of the land pursuant to a recorded contract between the qualified buyer and the qualified nonprofit corporation that satisfies all of the requirements specified in paragraph (10) of subdivision (a) of Section 402.1 of the Revenue and Taxation Code.
- (3) The property is held pursuant to a recorded tenancy in common agreement that includes all of the following:
- (A) The agreement allocates to each qualified buyer an undivided, unequal interest in the property based on the size of the dwelling each qualified buyer occupies.
- (B) A repurchase option that requires the qualified buyer to first offer the qualified nonprofit corporation to buy the property if the buyer desires to sell or convey the property.
- (C) A requirement that the qualified buyer occupy the property as the buyer's principal residence.
- (D) Affordability restrictions on the sale and conveyance of the property that ensure the property will be preserved for low-income housing for 45 years for owner-occupied housing units and will be sold or resold to a qualified buyer.
- (4) A grant deed naming the grantor, grantee, and describing the property interests being transferred shall be recorded in the county in which the property is located. A Preliminary Change of Ownership Report shall be filed concurrently with this grant deed pursuant to Section 480.3 of the Revenue and Taxation Code.
- (5) Notwithstanding subparagraph (A) of paragraph (2) of subdivision (f) of Section 65852.2, if requested by a utility providing service to the primary residence, the accessory dwelling unit has a separate water, sewer, or electrical connection to that utility.
- (b) For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:
- (1) "Qualified buyer" means persons and families of low or moderate income, as that term is defined in Section 50093 of the Health and Safety Code.

(2) "Qualified nonprofit corporation" means a nonprofit corporation organized pursuant to Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code that has received a welfare exemption under Section 214.15 of the Revenue and Taxation Code for properties intended to be sold to low-income families who participate in a special no-interest loan program.

AB 608, Chapter 92

Property taxation: exemption: low-value properties. Effective Date 7/12/2019

SECTION 1.

Section 155.20 of the Revenue and Taxation Code is amended to read:

155.20.

- (a) Subject to the limitations listed in subdivisions (b), (c), (d), and (e), a county board of supervisors may exempt from property tax all real property with a base year value (as determined pursuant to Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 50) of Part 0.5) as adjusted by an annual inflation factor pursuant to subdivision (f) of Section 110.1, and personal property with a full value so low that, if not exempt, the total taxes, special assessments, and applicable subventions on the property would amount to less than the cost of assessing and collecting them.
- (b) (1) (A) The board of supervisors shall have no authority to exempt property with a total base year value, as adjusted by an annual inflation factor pursuant to subdivision (f) of Section 110.1, or full value of more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), except as otherwise provided in subparagraph (B).
- (B) The limitation specified in subparagraph (A) on the amount of the exemption authorized by this section shall be increased as follows:
- (i) For lien dates occurring on or after January 1, 2020, and before January 1, 2025, the limitation is increased to fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) in the case of a possessory interest.
- (ii) For lien dates occurring on or after January 1, 2025, the limitation is increased to fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) in the case of a possessory interest, for a temporary and transitory use, in a publicly owned fairground, fairground facility, convention facility, or cultural facility. For purposes of this paragraph, "publicly owned convention or cultural facility" means a publicly owned convention center, civic auditorium, theater, assembly hall, museum, or other civic building that is used primarily for staging any of the following:
- (I) Conventions, trade and consumer shows, or civic and community events.
- (II) Live theater, dance, or musical productions.
- (III) Artistic, historic, technological, or educational exhibits.
- (2) In determining the level of the exemption, the board of supervisors shall determine at what level of exemption the costs of assessing the property and collecting taxes, assessments, and subventions on the property exceeds the proceeds to be collected. The board of supervisors shall establish the exemption level uniformly for different classes of property. In making this determination, the board of supervisors may consider the total taxes, special assessments, and applicable subventions for the year of assessment only or for the year of assessment and succeeding years where cumulative revenues will not exceed the cost of assessments and collections.

- (3) In administering the exemption authorized by this section, the assessor may opt either to not enroll the property on the assessment roll or to enroll the property and apply the exemption.
- (c) This section does not apply to those real or personal properties enumerated in Section 52.
- (d) The exemption authorized by this section shall be adopted by the board of supervisors on or before the lien date for the fiscal year to which the exemption is to apply and may, at the option of the board of supervisors, continue in effect for succeeding fiscal years. Any revision or rescission of the exemption shall be adopted by the board of supervisors on or before the lien date for the fiscal year to which that revision or rescission is to apply.
- (e) Nothing in this section shall authorize a county board of supervisors to exempt new construction, unless the new total base year value, as adjusted by an annual inflation factor pursuant to subdivision (f) of Section 110.1, of the property, including this new construction, is ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) or less.

SEC. 2.

The Legislature finds and declares the following with respect to the amendments made to Section 155.20 of the Revenue and Taxation Code by this act:

- (a) The specific goals, purposes, and objectives of expanding the low-value property tax exemption pursuant to this act are to provide county governments with the authority to increase the amount of low-value property exemption for possessory interests allowed under their ordinances up to the level that their cost-benefit analysis indicates in order to further the goal of cost-effective property tax administration.
- (b) Detailed performance indicators for the Legislature to use in determining whether the expanded low-value property tax exemption meets the goals, purposes, and objectives described in subdivision (a) shall be the number of counties in this state that expand that exemption as authorized by this act.
- (c) The data collection requirements for determining whether the expanded low-value property tax exemption is meeting, failing to meet, or exceeding the specific goals, purposes, and objectives described in subdivision (a) are as follows:
- (1) Each county assessor shall report to the State Board of Equalization whether and by what amount the county has increased the low-value property tax exemption for possessory interests as authorized by this act.
- (2) In order to make the information reported to pursuant to paragraph (1) widely available to the public, the State Board of Equalization shall post that information on its internet website.

SEC. 3.

If the Commission on State Mandates determines that this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

SEC. 4.

Notwithstanding Section 2229 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, no appropriation is made by this act and the state shall not reimburse any local agency for any property tax revenues lost by it pursuant to this act.

SEC. 5.

This act provides for a tax levy within the meaning of Article IV of the California Constitution and shall go into immediate effect.

AB 632, Chapter 62

Counties: offices: consolidation. Effective Date 1/1/2020

SECTION 1.

Section 24304.2 of the Government Code is amended to read:

24304.2.

Notwithstanding Section 24300, in Mendocino County, Santa Cruz County, Sonoma County, Trinity County, and Tulare County, the Counties of Lake, Mendocino, Santa Cruz, Sonoma, Trinity, and Tulare, the board of supervisors, by ordinance, may consolidate the duties of the offices of Auditor-Controller and Treasurer-Tax Collector into the elected office of Auditor-Controller-Treasurer-Tax Collector. The board of supervisors of the County of Lake shall not so consolidate these offices until a vacancy in either the office of Auditor-Controller or in the office of Treasurer-Tax Collector occurs.

SEC. 2.

The Legislature finds and declares that a special statute is necessary and that a general statute cannot be made applicable within the meaning of Section 16 of Article IV of the California Constitution because of the particular need to consolidate the duties of the offices of Auditor-Controller and Treasurer-Tax Collector into the elected office of Auditor-Controller-Treasurer-Tax Collector in the County of Lake.

AB 723, Chapter 747

Transactions and use taxes: County of Alameda: Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District. Effective Date 1/1/2020

SECTION 1.

Section 29140 of the Public Utilities Code is amended to read:

29140.

- (a) The board shall, by ordinance, impose transactions and use taxes in conformity with Part 1.6 (commencing with Section 7251) of Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code for the purposes specified in Sections 29142 and 29142.2, subject to periodic legislative review and amendment.
- (b) Notwithstanding Section 7251.1 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, a transactions and use tax rate imposed pursuant to subdivision (a) on or before the effective date of the act adding this subdivision that applies within the County of Alameda shall not be considered for purposes of the combined rate limit within the County of Alameda established by that section.

SEC. 2.

Section 98290 of the Public Utilities Code is amended to read:

98290.

(a) A retail transactions and use tax ordinance may be adopted by the board in accordance with the provisions of Part 1.6 (commencing with Section 7251) of Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, provided that two-thirds of the electors voting on the measure vote to authorize its enactment at a special election called for that purpose by the board.

(b) Notwithstanding Section 7251.1 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, a transactions and use tax rate imposed pursuant to subdivision (a) on or before the effective date of the act adding this subdivision shall not be considered for purposes of the combined rate limit established by that section.

SEC. 3.

Section 7292.2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code is amended to read:

7292.2.

- (a) Notwithstanding any other law, the County of Alameda may impose a transactions and use tax for general or specific purposes to support countywide programs at a rate of no more than 0.5 percent that would, in combination with all taxes imposed in accordance with the Transactions and Use Tax Law (Part 1.6 (commencing with Section 7251)), exceed the limit established in Section 7251.1, if all of the following requirements are met:
- (a) (1) The county adopts an ordinance proposing the transactions and use tax by any applicable voting approval requirement.
- (b) (2) The ordinance proposing the transactions and use tax is submitted to the electorate and is approved by the voters voting on the ordinance pursuant to Article XIII C of the California Constitution.
- (c) (3) The transactions and use tax conforms to the Transactions and Use Tax Law (Part 1.6 (commencing with Section 7251)), other than Section 7251.1.
- (b) (1) Notwithstanding Section 7251.1, neither of the following shall be considered for purposes of the rate limit established by that section:
- (A) A transactions and use tax rate imposed pursuant to subdivision (a).
- (B) A transactions and use tax rate imposed by the County of Alameda pursuant to authority previously granted by Chapter 327 of the Statutes of 2011, as amended by Chapter 194 of the Statutes of 2013.
- (2) This subdivision does not constitute a change in, but is declaratory of, existing law.

SEC. 4.

The Legislature finds and declares that a special statute is necessary and that a general statute cannot be made applicable within the meaning of Section 16 of Article IV of the California Constitution because of the unique fiscal pressures being experienced in the Counties of Alameda and Santa Cruz.

AB 857, Chapter 442

Public banks. Effective Date 1/1/2020

SECTION 1.

It is the intent of the Legislature that this act authorize the lending of public credit to public banks and authorize public ownership of public banks for the purpose of achieving cost savings, strengthening local economies, supporting community economic development, and addressing infrastructure and housing needs for localities. It is the intent of the Legislature that public banks

shall partner with local financial institutions, such as credit unions and local community banks, and shall not compete with local financial institutions.

SEC. 2.

Section 5130 of the Corporations Code is amended to read:

5130.

The articles of incorporation of a corporation formed under this part shall set forth:

- (a) The name of the corporation.
- (b) The (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), the following statement:

"This corporation is a nonprofit public benefit corporation and is not organized for the private gain of any person. It is organized under the Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation Law for (public or charitable [insert one or both]) purposes."

[If the purposes include "public" purposes, the articles shall, and in all other cases the articles may, include a further description of the corporation's purposes.]

- (2) If the corporation is a public bank, as defined in Section 57600 of the Government Code, the articles shall set forth a statement of purpose that is prescribed in subdivision (b) of Section 57601 of the Government Code.
- (c) The name and street address in this state of the corporation's initial agent for service of process in accordance with subdivision (b) of Section 6210.
- (d) The initial street address of the corporation.
- (e) The initial mailing address of the corporation, if different from the initial street address.

SEC. 3.

Section 7130 of the Corporations Code is amended to read:

7130.

The articles of incorporation of a corporation formed under this part shall set forth the following:

- (a) The name of the corporation.
- (b) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), (2) or (3), the following statement: "This corporation is a nonprofit mutual benefit corporation organized under the Nonprofit Mutual Benefit Corporation Law. The purpose of this corporation is to engage in any lawful act or activity, other than credit union business, for which a corporation may be organized under such law."
- (2) In the case of a corporation formed under this part that is subject to the California Credit Union Law (Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 14000) of Division 5 of the Financial Code), the articles shall set forth a statement of purpose that is prescribed in the applicable provisions of the California Credit Union Law.
- (3) In the case of a corporation formed under this part that is a public bank, as defined in Section 57600 of the Government Code, the articles shall set forth a statement of purpose that is prescribed in subdivision (a) of Section 57601 of the Government Code.
- (3) (4) The articles may include a further definition of the corporation's purposes.

- (c) The name and street address in this state of the corporation's initial agent for service of process in accordance with subdivision (b) of Section 8210.
- (d) The initial street address of the corporation.
- (e) The initial mailing address of the corporation, if different from the initial street address.

SEC. 4.

Section 119 of the Financial Code is amended to read:

119.

"Bank" or "banks" includes a public bank, as defined in Section 57600 of the Government Code, commercial banks, industrial banks, and trust companies unless the context otherwise requires. However, "bank" does not include a savings association or a credit union.

SEC. 5.

Section 1004 of the Financial Code is amended to read:

1004.

- (a) A California state bank is a corporation incorporated under Division 1 (commencing with Section 100) of Title 1 of the Corporations Code or, in the case of a public bank, a corporation incorporated under Part 2 (commencing with Section 5110) or Part 3 (commencing with Section 7110) of Division 2 of Title 1 of the Corporations Code, that is, with the approval of the commissioner, incorporated for the purpose of engaging in, or that is authorized by the commissioner to engage in, the commercial or industrial banking business.
- (b) (1) All provisions of law applicable to corporations generally, including, but not limited to, the General Corporation Law (Division 1 (commencing with Section 100), Title 1 of the Corporations Code) shall apply to banks. a bank that is not a public bank. However, whenever any provision of this division or any regulation or order issued under any provision (other than this section) of this division applicable to banks is inconsistent with any provision of law applicable to corporations generally, that provision of this division or that regulation or order shall apply and the provision of law applicable to corporations generally shall not apply.
- (2) All provisions of law applicable to nonprofit corporations generally, including, but not limited to, the Nonprofit Corporation Law (Division 2 (commencing with Section 5000), Title 1 of the Corporations Code) shall apply to public banks. Whenever a provision of Division 5 of Title 5 of the Government Code applicable to public banks is inconsistent with a provision of law applicable to nonprofit mutual benefit corporations or nonprofit public benefit corporations generally, the provision of Division 5 of Title 5 of the Government Code applicable to public banks shall apply, and the inconsistent provision of law applicable to nonprofit mutual benefit corporations or nonprofit public benefit corporations generally shall not apply to a public bank.
- (c) As used in this section, public bank has the same meaning as defined in Section 57600 of the Government Code.

SEC. 6.

Section 1008 is added to the Financial Code, to read:

1008.

When applicable to a corporation organized as a public bank, as defined in Section 57600 of the Government Code, references in this division to share, shareholder, or stockholder shall mean membership or member in the public bank, as applicable.

SEC. 7.

Section 1100 of the Financial Code is amended to read:

1100.

The articles of each bank shall contain the applicable one of the following statements:

- (a) In case Except as provided in subdivision (f), if the bank is, or is proposed to be, a commercial bank not authorized to engage in trust business, that the purpose of the corporation is to engage in commercial banking business and any other lawful activities which are not, by applicable laws or regulations, prohibited to a commercial bank.
- (b) In case Except as provided in subdivision (f), if the bank is, or is proposed to be, a commercial bank authorized to engage in trust business, that the purpose of the corporation is to engage in commercial banking business and trust business and any other lawful activities which are not, by applicable laws or regulations, prohibited to a commercial bank authorized to engage in trust business.
- (c) In case. Except as provided in subdivision (f), if the bank is, or is proposed to be, an industrial bank not authorized to engage in trust business, that the purpose of the corporation is to engage in industrial banking business and any other lawful activities which are not, by applicable laws or regulations, prohibited to an industrial bank.
- (d) In case. Except as provided in paragraph (f), if the bank is, or is proposed to be, an industrial bank authorized to engage in trust business, that the purpose of the corporation is to engage in industrial banking business and trust business and any other lawful activities which are not, by applicable laws or regulations, prohibited to an industrial bank authorized to engage in trust business.
- (e) In case the bank is, or is proposed to be, a trust company (other than a commercial bank authorized to engage in trust business), that the purpose of the corporation is to engage in trust business and any other lawful activities which are not, by applicable laws or regulations, prohibited to a trust company.
- (f) If the bank is, or is proposed to be, a public bank, the articles shall set forth a statement of purpose that is prescribed in subdivision (a) or (b) of Section 57601 of the Government Code.

SEC. 8.

Section 6254.26 of the Government Code is amended to read:

6254.26.

- (a) Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter or other law, the following records regarding alternative investments in which public investment funds invest shall not be subject to disclosure pursuant to this chapter, unless the information has already been publicly released by the keeper of the information:
- (1) Due diligence materials that are proprietary to the public investment fund or the alternative investment vehicle.
- (2) Quarterly and annual financial statements of alternative investment vehicles.
- (3) Meeting materials of alternative investment vehicles.
- (4) Records containing information regarding the portfolio positions in which alternative investment funds invest.

- (5) Capital call and distribution notices.
- (6) Alternative investment agreements and all related documents.
- (b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), the following information contained in records described in subdivision (a) regarding alternative investments in which public investment funds invest shall be subject to disclosure pursuant to this chapter and shall not be considered a trade secret exempt from disclosure:
- (1) The name, address, and vintage year of each alternative investment vehicle.
- (2) The dollar amount of the commitment made to each alternative investment vehicle by the public investment fund since inception.
- (3) The dollar amount of cash contributions made by the public investment fund to each alternative investment vehicle since inception.
- (4) The dollar amount, on a fiscal yearend basis, of cash distributions received by the public investment fund from each alternative investment vehicle.
- (5) The dollar amount, on a fiscal yearend basis, of cash distributions received by the public investment fund plus remaining value of partnership assets attributable to the public investment fund's investment in each alternative investment vehicle.
- (6) The net internal rate of return of each alternative investment vehicle since inception.
- (7) The investment multiple of each alternative investment vehicle since inception.
- (8) The dollar amount of the total management fees and costs paid on an annual fiscal yearend basis, by the public investment fund to each alternative investment vehicle.
- (9) The dollar amount of cash profit received by public investment funds from each alternative investment vehicle on a fiscal year-end basis.
- (c) For purposes of this section, the following definitions shall apply:
- (1) "Alternative investment" means an investment in a private equity fund, venture fund, hedge fund, or absolute return fund.
- (2) "Alternative investment vehicle" means the limited partnership, limited liability company, or similar legal structure through which the public investment fund invests in portfolio companies.
- (3) "Portfolio positions" means individual portfolio investments made by the alternative investment vehicles.
- (4) "Public investment fund" means any public pension or retirement system, and any public endowment or foundation, or a public bank, as defined in Section 57600.

SEC. 9.

Section 6254.35 is added to the Government Code, to read:

6254.35.

- (a) For purposes of this section, the following definitions shall apply:
- (1) "Customer" means a person or entity that has transacted or is transacting business with or has used or is using the services of a public bank or a person or entity for whom the public bank has acted as a fiduciary with respect to trust property.

- (2) "Investment recipient" means an entity in which the public bank invests.
- (3) "Loan recipient" means an entity or individual which has received a loan from the public bank.
- (4) "Personal data" means social security numbers, tax identification numbers, physical descriptions, home addresses, home telephone numbers, statements of personal worth or any other personal financial data, employment histories, electronic mail addresses, and information that reveals any electronic network location or identity.
- (5) "Public bank" has the same meaning as defined in Section 57600.
- (b) Notwithstanding another provision of this chapter, the following information and records of a public bank and the related decisions of the directors, officers, and managers of a public bank shall not be subject to disclosure pursuant to this chapter, unless the information has already been publicly released by the custodian of the information:
- (1) Due diligence materials that are proprietary to the public bank.
- (2) A memorandum or letter produced and distributed internally by the public bank.
- (3) A commercial or personal financial statement or other financial data received from an actual or potential customer, loan recipient, or investment recipient.
- (4) Meeting materials of a closed session meeting, or a closed session portion of a meeting, of the board of directors, a committee of the board of directors, or executives of a public bank.
- (5) A record containing information regarding a portfolio position in which the public bank invests.
- (6) A record containing information regarding a specific loan amount or loan term, or information received from a loan recipient or customer pertaining to a loan or an application for a loan.
- (7) A capital call or distribution notice, or a notice to a loan recipient or customer regarding a loan or account with the public bank.
- (8) An investment agreement, loan agreement, deposit agreement, or a related document.
- (9) Specific account information or other personal data received by the public bank from an actual or potential customer, investment recipient, or loan recipient.
- (10) A memorandum or letter produced and distributed for purposes of meetings with a federal or state banking regulator.
- (11) A memorandum or letter received from a federal or state banking regulator.
- (12) Meeting materials of the internal audit committee, the compliance committee, or the governance committee of the Board of Directors of a public bank.
- (c) Notwithstanding subdivision (b), the following information contained in records described in subdivision (b) shall be subject to disclosure pursuant to this chapter and shall not be considered a trade secret exempt from disclosure:
- (1) The name, title, and appointment year of each director and executive of the public bank.
- (2) The name and address of each current investment recipient in which the public bank currently invests.
- (3) General internal performance metrics of the public bank and financial statements of the bank, as specified or required by the public bank's charter or as required by federal law.

(4) Final audit reports of the public bank's independent auditors, although disclosure to an independent auditor of any information described in subdivision (b) shall not be construed to permit public disclosure of that information provided to the auditor.

SEC. 10.

Section 23007 of the Government Code is amended to read:

23007.

Except as specified in this chapter, a county shall not, in any manner, give or loan its credit to or in aid of any person or corporation. corporation that is not a public bank, as defined in Section 57600. An indebtedness or liability incurred contrary to this chapter is void.

SEC. 11.

Section 53601 of the Government Code is amended to read:

53601.

This section shall apply to a local agency that is a city, a district, or other local agency that does not pool money in deposits or investments with other local agencies, other than local agencies that have the same governing body. However, Section 53635 shall apply to all local agencies that pool money in deposits or investments with other local agencies that have separate governing bodies. The legislative body of a local agency having moneys in a sinking fund or moneys in its treasury not required for the immediate needs of the local agency may invest any portion of the moneys that it deems wise or expedient in those investments set forth below. A local agency purchasing or obtaining any securities prescribed in this section, in a negotiable, bearer, registered, or nonregistered format, shall require delivery of the securities to the local agency, including those purchased for the agency by financial advisers, consultants, or managers using the agency's funds, by book entry, physical delivery, or by third-party custodial agreement. The transfer of securities to the counterparty bank's customer book entry account may be used for book entry delivery.

For purposes of this section, "counterparty" means the other party to the transaction. A counterparty bank's trust department or separate safekeeping department may be used for the physical delivery of the security if the security is held in the name of the local agency. Where this section specifies a percentage limitation for a particular category of investment, that percentage is applicable only at the date of purchase. Where this section does not specify a limitation on the term or remaining maturity at the time of the investment, no investment shall be made in any security, other than a security underlying a repurchase or reverse repurchase agreement or securities lending agreement authorized by this section, that at the time of the investment has a term remaining to maturity in excess of five years, unless the legislative body has granted express authority to make that investment either specifically or as a part of an investment program approved by the legislative body no less than three months prior to the investment:

- (a) Bonds issued by the local agency, including bonds payable solely out of the revenues from a revenue-producing property owned, controlled, or operated by the local agency or by a department, board, agency, or authority of the local agency.
- (b) United States Treasury notes, bonds, bills, or certificates of indebtedness, or those for which the faith and credit of the United States are pledged for the payment of principal and interest.
- (c) Registered state warrants or treasury notes or bonds of this state, including bonds payable solely out of the revenues from a revenue-producing property owned, controlled, or operated by the state or by a department, board, agency, or authority of the state.

- (d) Registered treasury notes or bonds of any of the other 49 states in addition to California, including bonds payable solely out of the revenues from a revenue-producing property owned, controlled, or operated by a state or by a department, board, agency, or authority of any of the other 49 states, in addition to California.
- (e) Bonds, notes, warrants, or other evidences of indebtedness of a local agency within this state, including bonds payable solely out of the revenues from a revenue-producing property owned, controlled, or operated by the local agency, or by a department, board, agency, or authority of the local agency.
- (f) Federal agency or United States government-sponsored enterprise obligations, participations, or other instruments, including those issued by or fully guaranteed as to principal and interest by federal agencies or United States government-sponsored enterprises.
- (g) Bankers' acceptances otherwise known as bills of exchange or time drafts that are drawn on and accepted by a commercial bank. Purchases of bankers' acceptances shall not exceed 180 days' maturity or 40 percent of the agency's moneys that may be invested pursuant to this section. However, no more than 30 percent of the agency's moneys may be invested in the bankers' acceptances of any one commercial bank pursuant to this section.

This subdivision does not preclude a municipal utility district from investing moneys in its treasury in a manner authorized by the Municipal Utility District Act (Division 6 (commencing with Section 11501) of the Public Utilities Code).

- (h) Commercial paper of "prime" quality of the highest ranking or of the highest letter and number rating as provided for by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization (NRSRO). The entity that issues the commercial paper shall meet all of the following conditions in either paragraph (1) or (2):
- (1) The entity meets the following criteria:
- (A) Is organized and operating in the United States as a general corporation.
- (B) Has total assets in excess of five hundred million dollars (\$500,000,000).
- (C) Has debt other than commercial paper, if any, that is rated in a rating category of "A" or its equivalent or higher by an NRSRO.
- (2) The entity meets the following criteria:
- (A) Is organized within the United States as a special purpose corporation, trust, or limited liability company.
- (B) Has programwide credit enhancements including, but not limited to, overcollateralization, letters of credit, or a surety bond.
- (C) Has commercial paper that is rated "A-1" or higher, or the equivalent, by an NRSRO.

Eligible commercial paper shall have a maximum maturity of 270 days or less. Local agencies, other than counties or a city and county, may invest no more than 25 percent of their moneys in eligible commercial paper. Local agencies, other than counties or a city and county, may purchase no more than 10 percent of the outstanding commercial paper of any single issuer. Counties or a city and county may invest in commercial paper pursuant to the concentration limits in subdivision (a) of Section 53635.

- (i) Negotiable certificates of deposit issued by a nationally or state-chartered bank, a savings association or a federal association (as defined by Section 5102 of the Financial Code), a state or federal credit union, or by a federally licensed or state-licensed branch of a foreign bank. Purchases of negotiable certificates of deposit shall not exceed 30 percent of the agency's moneys that may be invested pursuant to this section. For purposes of this section, negotiable certificates of deposit do not come within Article 2 (commencing with Section 53630), except that the amount so invested shall be subject to the limitations of Section 53638. The legislative body of a local agency and the treasurer or other official of the local agency having legal custody of the moneys are prohibited from investing local agency funds, or funds in the custody of the local agency, in negotiable certificates of deposit issued by a state or federal credit union if a member of the legislative body of the local agency, or a person with investment decisionmaking authority in the administrative office manager's office, budget office, auditor-controller's office, or treasurer's office of the local agency also serves on the board of directors, or any committee appointed by the board of directors, or the credit committee or the supervisory committee of the state or federal credit union issuing the negotiable certificates of deposit.
- (j) (1) Investments in repurchase agreements or reverse repurchase agreements or securities lending agreements of securities authorized by this section, as long as the agreements are subject to this subdivision, including the delivery requirements specified in this section.
- (2) Investments in repurchase agreements may be made, on an investment authorized in this section, when the term of the agreement does not exceed one year. The market value of securities that underlie a repurchase agreement shall be valued at 102 percent or greater of the funds borrowed against those securities and the value shall be adjusted no less than quarterly. Since the market value of the underlying securities is subject to daily market fluctuations, the investments in repurchase agreements shall be in compliance if the value of the underlying securities is brought back up to 102 percent no later than the next business day.
- (3) Reverse repurchase agreements or securities lending agreements may be utilized only when all of the following conditions are met:
- (A) The security to be sold using a reverse repurchase agreement or securities lending agreement has been owned and fully paid for by the local agency for a minimum of 30 days prior to sale.
- (B) The total of all reverse repurchase agreements and securities lending agreements on investments owned by the local agency does not exceed 20 percent of the base value of the portfolio.
- (C) The agreement does not exceed a term of 92 days, unless the agreement includes a written codicil guaranteeing a minimum earning or spread for the entire period between the sale of a security using a reverse repurchase agreement or securities lending agreement and the final maturity date of the same security.
- (D) Funds obtained or funds within the pool of an equivalent amount to that obtained from selling a security to a counterparty using a reverse repurchase agreement or securities lending agreement shall not be used to purchase another security with a maturity longer than 92 days from the initial settlement date of the reverse repurchase agreement or securities lending agreement, unless the reverse repurchase agreement or securities lending agreement includes a written codicil guaranteeing a minimum earning or spread for the entire period between the sale of a security using a reverse repurchase agreement or securities lending agreement and the final maturity date of the same security.
- (4) (A) Investments in reverse repurchase agreements, securities lending agreements, or similar investments in which the local agency sells securities prior to purchase with a simultaneous

agreement to repurchase the security may be made only upon prior approval of the governing body of the local agency and shall be made only with primary dealers of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York or with a nationally or state-chartered bank that has or has had a significant banking relationship with a local agency.

- (B) For purposes of this chapter, "significant banking relationship" means any of the following activities of a bank:
- (i) Involvement in the creation, sale, purchase, or retirement of a local agency's bonds, warrants, notes, or other evidence of indebtedness.
- (ii) Financing of a local agency's activities.
- (iii) Acceptance of a local agency's securities or funds as deposits.
- (5) (A) "Repurchase agreement" means a purchase of securities by the local agency pursuant to an agreement by which the counterparty seller will repurchase the securities on or before a specified date and for a specified amount and the counterparty will deliver the underlying securities to the local agency by book entry, physical delivery, or by third-party custodial agreement. The transfer of underlying securities to the counterparty bank's customer book-entry account may be used for book-entry delivery.
- (B) "Securities," for purposes of repurchase under this subdivision, means securities of the same issuer, description, issue date, and maturity.
- (C) "Reverse repurchase agreement" means a sale of securities by the local agency pursuant to an agreement by which the local agency will repurchase the securities on or before a specified date and includes other comparable agreements.
- (D) "Securities lending agreement" means an agreement under which a local agency agrees to transfer securities to a borrower who, in turn, agrees to provide collateral to the local agency. During the term of the agreement, both the securities and the collateral are held by a third party. At the conclusion of the agreement, the securities are transferred back to the local agency in return for the collateral.
- (E) For purposes of this section, the base value of the local agency's pool portfolio shall be that dollar amount obtained by totaling all cash balances placed in the pool by all pool participants, excluding any amounts obtained through selling securities by way of reverse repurchase agreements, securities lending agreements, or other similar borrowing methods.
- (F) For purposes of this section, the spread is the difference between the cost of funds obtained using the reverse repurchase agreement and the earnings obtained on the reinvestment of the funds.
- (k) Medium-term notes, defined as all corporate and depository institution debt securities with a maximum remaining maturity of five years or less, issued by corporations organized and operating within the United States or by depository institutions licensed by the United States or any state and operating within the United States. Notes eligible for investment under this subdivision shall be rated in a rating category of "A" or its equivalent or better by an NRSRO. Purchases of medium-term notes shall not include other instruments authorized by this section and shall not exceed 30 percent of the agency's moneys that may be invested pursuant to this section.
- (I) (1) Shares of beneficial interest issued by diversified management companies that invest in the securities and obligations as authorized by subdivisions (a) to (k), inclusive, and subdivisions (m) to (q), inclusive, and that comply with the investment restrictions of this article and Article 2

(commencing with Section 53630). However, notwithstanding these restrictions, a counterparty to a reverse repurchase agreement or securities lending agreement is not required to be a primary dealer of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York if the company's board of directors finds that the counterparty presents a minimal risk of default, and the value of the securities underlying a repurchase agreement or securities lending agreement may be 100 percent of the sales price if the securities are marked to market daily.

- (2) Shares of beneficial interest issued by diversified management companies that are money market funds registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. Sec. 80a-1 et seq.).
- (3) If investment is in shares issued pursuant to paragraph (1), the company shall have met either of the following criteria:
- (A) Attained the highest ranking or the highest letter and numerical rating provided by not less than two NRSROs.
- (B) Retained an investment adviser registered or exempt from registration with the Securities and Exchange Commission with not less than five years' experience investing in the securities and obligations authorized by subdivisions (a) to (k), inclusive, and subdivisions (m) to (q), inclusive, and with assets under management in excess of five hundred million dollars (\$500,000,000).
- (4) If investment is in shares issued pursuant to paragraph (2), the company shall have met either of the following criteria:
- (A) Attained the highest ranking or the highest letter and numerical rating provided by not less than two NRSROs.
- (B) Retained an investment adviser registered or exempt from registration with the Securities and Exchange Commission with not less than five years' experience managing money market mutual funds with assets under management in excess of five hundred million dollars (\$500,000,000).
- (5) The purchase price of shares of beneficial interest purchased pursuant to this subdivision shall not include commission that the companies may charge and shall not exceed 20 percent of the agency's moneys that may be invested pursuant to this section. However, no more than 10 percent of the agency's funds may be invested in shares of beneficial interest of any one mutual fund pursuant to paragraph (1).
- (m) Moneys held by a trustee or fiscal agent and pledged to the payment or security of bonds or other indebtedness, or obligations under a lease, installment sale, or other agreement of a local agency, or certificates of participation in those bonds, indebtedness, or lease installment sale, or other agreements, may be invested in accordance with the statutory provisions governing the issuance of those bonds, indebtedness, or lease installment sale, or other agreement, or to the extent not inconsistent therewith or if there are no specific statutory provisions, in accordance with the ordinance, resolution, indenture, or agreement of the local agency providing for the issuance.
- (n) Notes, bonds, or other obligations that are at all times secured by a valid first priority security interest in securities of the types listed by Section 53651 as eligible securities for the purpose of securing local agency deposits having a market value at least equal to that required by Section 53652 for the purpose of securing local agency deposits. The securities serving as collateral shall be placed by delivery or book entry into the custody of a trust company or the trust department of a bank that is not affiliated with the issuer of the secured obligation, and the security interest shall be perfected in accordance with the requirements of the Uniform Commercial Code or federal regulations applicable to the types of securities in which the security interest is granted.

- (o) A mortgage passthrough security, collateralized mortgage obligation, mortgage-backed or other pay-through bond, equipment lease-backed certificate, consumer receivable passthrough certificate, or consumer receivable-backed bond. Securities eligible for investment under this subdivision shall be rated in a rating category of "AA" or its equivalent or better by an NRSRO and have a maximum remaining maturity of five years or less. Purchase of securities authorized by this subdivision shall not exceed 20 percent of the agency's surplus moneys that may be invested pursuant to this section.
- (p) Shares of beneficial interest issued by a joint powers authority organized pursuant to Section 6509.7 that invests in the securities and obligations authorized in subdivisions (a) to (q), (r), inclusive. Each share shall represent an equal proportional interest in the underlying pool of securities owned by the joint powers authority. To be eligible under this section, the joint powers authority issuing the shares shall have retained an investment adviser that meets all of the following criteria:
- (1) The adviser is registered or exempt from registration with the Securities and Exchange Commission.
- (2) The adviser has not less than five years of experience investing in the securities and obligations authorized in subdivisions (a) to (q), inclusive.
- (3) The adviser has assets under management in excess of five hundred million dollars (\$500,000,000).
- (q) United States dollar denominated senior unsecured unsubordinated obligations issued or unconditionally guaranteed by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, International Finance Corporation, or Inter-American Development Bank, with a maximum remaining maturity of five years or less, and eligible for purchase and sale within the United States. Investments under this subdivision shall be rated in a rating category of "AA" or its equivalent or better by an NRSRO and shall not exceed 30 percent of the agency's moneys that may be invested pursuant to this section.
- (r) Commercial paper, debt securities, or other obligations of a public bank, as defined in Section 57600.

SEC. 12.

Section 53635 of the Government Code is amended to read:

53635.

(a) This section shall apply to a local agency that is a county, a city and county, or other local agency that pools money in deposits or investments with other local agencies, including local agencies that have the same governing body. However, Section 53601 shall apply to all local agencies that pool money in deposits or investments exclusively with local agencies that have the same governing body.

This section shall be interpreted in a manner that recognizes the distinct characteristics of investment pools and the distinct administrative burdens on managing and investing funds on a pooled basis pursuant to Article 6 (commencing with Section 27130) of Chapter 5 of Division 2 of Title 3.

A local agency that is a county, a city and county, or other local agency that pools money in deposits or investments with other agencies may invest in commercial paper pursuant to subdivision (h) of Section 53601, except that the local agency shall be subject to the following concentration limits:

- (1) No more than 40 percent of the local agency's money may be invested in eligible commercial paper.
- (2) No more than 10 percent of the total assets of the investments held by a local agency may be invested in any one issuer's commercial paper.
- (b) Notwithstanding Section 53601, the City of Los Angeles shall be subject to the concentration limits of this section for counties and for cities and counties with regard to the investment of money in eligible commercial paper.
- (c) A local agency subject to this section may invest in commercial paper, debt securities, or other obligations of a public bank, as defined in Section 57600.

SEC. 13.

Section 53635.2 of the Government Code is amended to read:

53635.2.

As far as possible, all money belonging to, or in the custody of, a local agency, including money paid to the treasurer or other official to pay the principal, interest, or penalties of bonds, shall be deposited for safekeeping in state or national banks, *public banks*, savings associations, federal associations, credit unions, or federally insured industrial loan companies in this state selected by the treasurer or other official having legal custody of the money; or may be invested in the investments set forth in Section 53601. To be eligible to receive local agency money, a bank, savings association, federal association, or federally insured industrial loan company shall have received an overall rating of not less than "satisfactory" in its most recent evaluation by the appropriate federal financial supervisory agency of its record of meeting the credit needs of California's communities, including low- and moderate-income neighborhoods, pursuant to Section 2906 of Title 12 of the United States Code. Sections 53601.5 and 53601.6 shall apply to all investments that are acquired pursuant to this section.

SEC. 14.

Section 54956.97 is added to the Government Code, to read:

54956.97.

Notwithstanding any provision of law, the governing board, or a committee of the governing board, of a public bank, as defined in Section 57600 of the Government Code, may meet in closed session to consider and take action on matters pertaining to all of the following:

- (a) A loan or investment decision.
- (b) A decision of the internal audit committee, the compliance committee, or the governance committee.
- (c) A meeting with a state or federal regulator.

SEC. 15.

Section 54956.98 is added to the Government Code, to read:

54956.98.

- (a) For purposes of this section, the following definitions shall apply:
- (1) "Shareholder, member, or owner local agency" or "shareholder, member, or owner" means a local agency that is a shareholder of a public bank.
- (2) "Public bank" has the same meaning as defined in Section 57600.

- (b) The governing board of a public bank may adopt a policy or a bylaw or include in its governing documents provisions that authorize any of the following:
- (1) All information received by a shareholder, member, or owner of the public bank in a closed session related to the information presented to the governing board of a public bank in closed session shall be confidential. However, a member of the governing board of a shareholder, member, or owner local agency may disclose information obtained in a closed session that has direct financial or liability implications for that local agency to the following individuals:
- (A) Legal counsel of that shareholder, member, or owner local agency for purposes of obtaining advice on whether the matter has direct financial or liability implications for that shareholder local agency.
- (B) Other members of the governing board of the local agency present in a closed session of that shareholder, member, or owner local agency.
- (2) A designated alternate member of the governing board of the public bank who is also a member of the governing board of a shareholder, member, or owner local agency and who is attending a properly noticed meeting of the public bank governing board in lieu of a shareholder, member, or owner local agency's regularly appointed member may attend a closed session of the public bank governing board.
- (c) If the governing board of a public bank adopts a policy or a bylaw or includes provisions in its governing documents pursuant to subdivision (b), then the governing board of the shareholder, member, or owner local agency, upon the advice of its legal counsel, may conduct a closed session in order to receive, discuss, and take action concerning information obtained in a closed session of the public bank governing board pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (b).

SEC. 16.

Division 5 (commencing with Section 57600) is added to Title 5 of the Government Code, to read:

DIVISION 5. Public Banks 57600.

For purposes of this division:

- (a) "Local financial institution" means a certified community development financial institution, a credit union, as defined in Section 165 of the Financial Code, or a small bank or an intermediate small bank, as defined in Section 25.12 of Title 12 of the Code of Federal Regulations.
- (b) (1) "Public bank" means a corporation, organized under the Nonprofit Mutual Benefit Corporation Law (Part 3 (commencing with Section 7110) of Division 2 of Title 1 of the Corporations Code) or the Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation Law (Part 2 (commencing with Section 5110) of Division 2 of Title 1 of the Corporations Code) for the purpose of engaging in the commercial banking business or industrial banking business, that is wholly owned by a local agency, local agencies, or a joint powers authority formed pursuant to the Joint Exercise of Powers Act (Article 1 (commencing with Section 6500) of Chapter 5 of Division 7 of Title 1) that is composed only of local agencies.
- (2) A local agency located within a county with a population of less than 250,000 may organize a public bank only if it does so as part of a joint powers authority formed for those purposes.
- (3) For purposes of paragraph (2), population shall be based on the most recent estimate of population data determined by the Demographic Research Unit of the Department of Finance.

(c) "Public bank license" means a certificate of authorization to transact business as a bank as described in Section 1042 of the Financial Code.

57601.

- (a) If a public bank is organized as a nonprofit mutual benefit corporation, the articles of incorporation shall include the following purpose statement: "This corporation is a nonprofit mutual benefit corporation organized under the Nonprofit Mutual Benefit Corporation Law as a public bank. The purpose of the corporation is to engage in the commercial banking business or industrial banking business and any other lawful activities which are not prohibited to a public bank by applicable laws or regulations."
- (b) If a public bank is organized as a nonprofit public benefit corporation, the articles of incorporation shall include the following purpose statement: "This corporation is a nonprofit public benefit corporation and is not organized for the private gain of any person. It is organized under the Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation Law for the public purpose of engaging in the commercial banking business or industrial banking business as a public bank."
- (c) Notwithstanding Sections 5410 and 7411 of the Corporations Code, a public bank may make distributions to its members.
- (d) All provisions of law applicable to nonprofit corporations generally, including, but not limited to, the Nonprofit Corporation Law (Division 2 (commencing with Section 5000) of Title 1 of the Corporations Code) shall apply to public banks. Whenever a provision of this division applicable to public banks is inconsistent with a provision of law applicable to nonprofit mutual benefit corporations or nonprofit public benefit corporations generally, the provision of this division shall apply, and the inconsistent provision of law applicable to nonprofit mutual benefit corporations or nonprofit public benefit corporations generally shall not apply to a public bank.

57602.

- (a) A public bank shall obtain and maintain deposit insurance provided by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation under the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. Sec. 1811 et seq.).
- (b) In seeking and retaining insurance, a public bank may do all things and assume and discharge all obligations required of it that are not in conflict with state law.

- (a) Before engaging in business, a public bank shall obtain a certificate of authorization to transact business as a bank pursuant to Division 1.1 of the Financial Code (commencing with Section 1000).
- (b) A local agency shall comply with the requirements of Section 53638 with respect to its deposits in a public bank unless, with the prior approval of the Commissioner of Business Oversight, the public bank and the local agency depositor agree otherwise.
- (c) Notwithstanding Section 23010, a county may lend any of its available funds to any public bank.
- (d) Notwithstanding Section 53601, any local agency that does not pool money in deposits or investments with other local agencies that have separate governing bodies may invest in debt securities or other obligations of a public bank.
- (e) Notwithstanding Section 53635, any local agency that pools money in deposits or investments with other local agencies, including local agencies that have the same governing body, may invest in debt securities or other obligations of a public bank.
- (f) Notwithstanding Section 53635.2, a public bank shall be eligible to receive local agency money.

57604.

- (a) As used in this section:
- (1) "Conducted in partnership with" means pursuant to a written agreement with a local financial institution to provide financial products and services to the public located within the jurisdiction of the public bank.
- (2) "Infrastructure lending" means granting a loan or extending credit to a local agency for the purpose of building or improving public infrastructure, including housing projects, as defined in Section 34212 of the Health and Safety Code, and affordable housing, as defined in subdivision (a) of Section 62250.
- (3) "Local agency banking" means providing any of the following services to a local agency:
- (A) Accepting a deposit of any kind.
- (B) Granting a loan or extension of credit of any kind.
- (4) "Participation lending" means purchasing or selling an interest in a loan or loans originated by or sold to a local financial institution, or originating, leading, or directing a loan transaction involving a local financial institution pursuant to a written agreement with the local financial institution.
- (5) "Person" means a person as defined in Section 127 of the Financial Code, except that a person does not mean a local agency as defined in Section 50001 of the Government Code, but includes any individual employed by a local agency.
- (6) "Retail activities" means providing any kind of financial product or service to a person that is typically offered or provided by a local financial institution, including, but not limited to, all of the following:
- (A) Accepting a deposit of any kind from a person, including the issuance of shares by a credit union.
- (B) Granting a loan or extension of credit, of any kind, to a person.
- (7) "Wholesale lending" means granting a loan or extension of credit to a local financial institution.
- (b) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of subdivision (c), a public bank shall conduct retail activities in partnership with local financial institutions and shall not compete with local financial institutions.
- (c) A public bank may do both of the following:
- (1) Engage in all of the following banking activities:
- (A) Local agency banking.
- (B) Infrastructure lending.
- (C) Wholesale lending.
- (D) Participation lending.
- (2) Engage in retail activities without partnering with a local financial institution, if those retail activities are not offered or provided by local financial institutions in the jurisdiction of the local agency or agencies that own the public bank.

For the purposes of Section 1280 of the Financial Code, any person or entity, including a local agency, that owns, controls, or holds an ownership interest in a public bank is not a bank holding company by reason of that ownership interest.

- (a) Before submitting an application to organize and establish a public bank pursuant to Section 1020 of the Financial Code, a local agency shall conduct a study to assess the viability of the proposed public bank. The study shall include, but is not limited to, all of the following elements:
- (1) A discussion of the purposes of the bank including, but not limited to, achieving cost savings, strengthening local economies, supporting community economic development, and addressing infrastructure and housing needs for localities.
- (2) A fiscal analysis of costs associated with starting the proposed public bank.
- (3) An estimate of the initial amount of capital to be provided by the local agency to the proposed public bank.
- (4) Financial projections, including a pro forma balance sheet and income statement, of the proposed public bank for at least the first five years of operation. The financial projections shall include an estimate of the time period for when expected revenues meet or exceed expected costs and an estimate of the total operating subsidy that the local agency may be required to provide until the proposed public bank generates sufficient revenue to cover its costs. In addition to projections that assume favorable economic conditions, the analysis shall also include a downside scenario that considers the effect of an economic recession on the financial results of the proposed public bank. The projections may include the downside scenario of continuing to do business with the local government's current banker or bankers.
- (5) A legal analysis of whether the proposed structure and operations of the public bank would likely comply with Section 6 of Article XVI of the California Constitution, but nothing herein shall compel the waiver of any attorney-client privilege attaching to that legal analysis.
- (6) An analysis of how the proposed governance structure of the public bank would protect the bank from unlawful insider transactions and apparent conflicts of interest.
- (b) The study may include any of the following elements:
- (1) A fiscal analysis of benefits associated with starting the proposed public bank, including, but not limited to, cost savings, jobs created, jobs retained, economic activity generated, and private capital leveraged.
- (2) A qualitative assessment of social or environmental benefits of the proposed public bank.
- (3) An estimate of the fees paid to the local agency's current banker or bankers.
- (4) A fiscal analysis of the costs, including social and environmental, of continuing to do business with the local agency's current banker or bankers.
- (c) (1) The study required by subdivision (a) shall be presented to and approved by the governing body of the local agency, and a motion to move forward with an application for a public banking charter shall be approved by a majority vote of the governing body at a public meeting prior to the local agency submitting an application pursuant to Section 1020 of the Financial Code. In addition, the local agency shall include a copy of the study required by subdivision (a) in the application submitted to the Commissioner of Business Oversight.

- (2) Before the local agency submits an application pursuant to Section 1020 of the Financial Code, the motion to move forward with an application for a public banking charter shall be subject to voter approval at the next regularly scheduled election held at least 180 days following the vote of the governing body.
- (3) The voter approval requirement described in paragraph (2) shall apply to a local agency entering into a joint powers authority formed pursuant to the Joint Exercise of Powers Act (Article 1 (commencing with Section 6500) of Chapter 5 of Division 7 of Title 1) after the study required in subdivision (a) has been completed and before submitting an application to organize and establish a public bank pursuant to Section 1020 of the Financial Code.
- (4) As used in paragraphs (2) and (3), "local agency" does not include a charter city.
- (d) The local agency shall make available to the public the financial models and key assumptions used to estimate the elements described in paragraphs (2) through (4) of subdivision (a) before presenting the study to the governing body of the local agency as required by subdivision (c).

57607.

- (a) The Commissioner of Business Oversight shall not issue more than two public bank licenses in a calendar year.
- (b) The Commissioner of Business Oversight shall not issue a public bank license if issuing that public bank license would cause there to be more than 10 public banks authorized to transact business pursuant to Division 1.1 (commencing with Section 1000) of the Financial Code.
- (c) The Commissioner of Business Oversight shall conduct a study of public banking in California within two years after the date upon which the commissioner issues the 10th public bank license.
- (d) The Commissioner of Business Oversight shall not issue a public bank license after the expiration of a period of seven years from the date upon which the commissioner first promulgates regulations for the purpose of carrying out the commissioner's duties under this division.

SEC. 17.

Section 23701aa is added to the Revenue and Taxation Code, to read:

23701aa.

A public bank as defined in Section 57600 of the Government Code. In addition, a public bank is exempt from all other taxes and licenses, state, county, and municipal, imposed upon a public bank, local utility user taxes, sales and use taxes, state energy resources surcharges, state emergency telephone users surcharges, motor vehicle and other vehicle registration license fees, and any other tax or license fee imposed by the state upon vehicles, motor vehicles, or the operation thereof.

SEC. 18.

The Legislature finds and declares that Sections 8, 9, 14, and 15 of this act, which amend Section 6254.26 of, and add Sections 6254.34, 54956.97, and 54956.98 to, the Government Code, impose a limitation on the public's right of access to the meetings of public bodies or the writings of public officials and agencies within the meaning of Section 3 of Article I of the California Constitution. Pursuant to that constitutional provision, the Legislature makes the following findings to demonstrate the interest protected by this limitation and the need for protecting that interest:

Certain information collected by a public bank must be kept confidential because confidentiality is essential to a public bank's relationships with its customers, lenders, regulators, and other banks. This confidentiality extends to portions of meetings of the board of directors relating to loan or

investment decisions, to meetings with banking regulators, and to meetings of the internal audit committee, the compliance committee, or the governance committee of a public bank. This bill balances the interests of a public bank in keeping certain important information confidential with the interest of the public in accessing information concerning the conduct of the people's business by allowing the public to monitor the performance of a public bank and allowing the public to know the identities of principals involved in management of a public bank so that conflicts of interest on the part of public officials can be avoided.

SEC. 19.

The Legislature finds and declares that Sections 8, 9, 14, and 15 of this act, which amend Section 6254.26 of, and add Sections 6254.34, 54956.97, and 54956.98 to, the Government Code, further, within the meaning of paragraph (7) of subdivision (b) of Section 3 of Article I of the California Constitution, the purposes of that constitutional section as it relates to the right of public access to the meetings of local public bodies or the writings of local public officials and local agencies. Pursuant to paragraph (7) of subdivision (b) of Section 3 of Article I of the California Constitution, the Legislature makes the following findings:

This bill balances the interests of a public bank in keeping certain important information confidential with the interest of the public in accessing information concerning the conduct of the people's business.

AB 945, Chapter 619

Local government: financial affairs: surplus funds. Effective Date 1/1/2020

SECTION 1.

Section 53601.8 of the Government Code, as amended by Section 1 of Chapter 181 of the Statutes of 2015, is amended to read:

53601.8.

Notwithstanding Section 53601 or any other provision of this code, a local agency that has the authority under law to invest funds, at its discretion, may invest a portion of its surplus funds in deposits at a commercial bank, savings bank, savings and loan association, or credit union that uses a private sector entity that assists in the placement of deposits. The following conditions shall apply:

- (a) The local agency shall choose a nationally or state chartered state-chartered commercial bank, savings bank, savings and loan association, or credit union in this state to invest the funds, which shall be known as the "selected" depository institution.
- (b) The selected depository institution may use a private sector entity to help place local agency deposits with one or more commercial banks, savings banks, savings and loan associations, or credit unions that are located in the United States and are within the network used by the private sector entity for this purpose.
- (c) The selected depository institution shall request that the local agency inform it of depository institutions at which the local agency has other deposits, and the selected depository institution shall provide that information to the private sector entity.
- (c) (d) Any private sector entity used by a selected depository institution to help place its local agency deposits shall maintain policies and procedures requiring both all of the following:

- (1) The full amount of each deposit placed pursuant to subdivision (b) and the interest that may accrue on each such deposit shall at all times be insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or the National Credit Union Administration.
- (2) Every depository institution where funds are placed shall be capitalized at a level that is sufficient, and be otherwise eligible, to receive such deposits pursuant to regulations of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or the National Credit Union Administration, as applicable.
- (3) At the time of the local agency's investment with a selected depository institution and no less than monthly thereafter, the private sector entity shall ensure that the local agency is provided with an inventory of all depository institutions in which deposits have been placed on the local agency's behalf, that are within the private sector entity's network.
- (4) Within its network, the private sector entity shall ensure that it does not place additional deposits from a particular local agency with any depository institution identified pursuant to subdivision (c) as holding that local agency's deposits if those additional deposits would result in that local agency's total amount on deposit at that depository institution exceeding the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or the National Credit Union Administration insurance limit.
- (e) If a selected depository uses two or more private sector entities to assist in the placement of a local agency's deposits, the selected depository shall ensure that it does not place additional deposits from a particular local agency with a depository institution if those additional deposits would result in that local agency's total amount on deposit at that depository institution exceeding the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or the National Credit Union Administration insurance limit.
- (d) (f) The selected depository institution shall serve as a custodian for each such deposit.
- (e) (g) On the same date that the local agency's funds are placed pursuant to subdivision (b) by the private sector entity, the selected depository institution shall receive an amount of insured deposits from other financial institutions that, in total, are equal to, or greater than, the full amount of the principal that the local agency initially deposited through the selected depository institution pursuant to subdivision (b).
- (f) (h) Notwithstanding subdivisions (a) to (e), (g), inclusive, a credit union shall not act as a selected depository institution under this section or Section 53635.8 unless both of the following conditions are satisfied:
- (1) The credit union offers federal depository insurance through the National Credit Union Administration.
- (2) The credit union is in possession of written guidance or other written communication from the National Credit Union Administration authorizing participation of federally insured credit unions in one or more deposit placement services and affirming that the moneys held by those credit unions while participating in a deposit placement service will at all times be insured by the federal government.
- (g) (i) It is the intent of the Legislature that this section shall not restrict competition among private sector entities that provide placement services pursuant to this section.
- (h) (j) The deposits placed pursuant to this section and Section 53635.8 shall be subject to Section 53638 and shall not, in total, exceed 30 50 percent of the agency's funds that may be invested for this purpose.

(i) (k) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2021, 2026, and as of that date is repealed.

SEC. 2.

Section 53601.8 of the Government Code, as amended by Section 2 of Chapter 181 of the Statutes of 2015, is repealed.

53601.8.

- Notwithstanding Section 53601 or any other provision of this code, a local agency that has the authority under law to invest funds may, at its discretion, invest a portion of its surplus funds in certificates of deposit at a commercial bank, savings bank, savings and loan association, or credit union that uses a private sector entity that assists in the placement of certificates of deposit, provided that the purchases of certificates of deposit pursuant to this section, Section 53635.8, and subdivision (i) of Section 53601 do not, in total, exceed 30 percent of the agency's funds that may be invested for this purpose. The following conditions shall apply:
- (a) The local agency shall choose a nationally or state-chartered commercial bank, savings bank, savings and loan association, or credit union in this state to invest the funds, which shall be known as the "selected" depository institution.
- (b) The selected depository institution may submit the funds to a private sector entity that assists in the placement of certificates of deposit with one or more commercial banks, savings banks, savings and loan associations, or credit unions that are located in the United States for the local agency's account.
- (c) The full amount of the principal and the interest that may be accrued during the maximum term of each certificate of deposit shall at all times be insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or the National Credit Union Administration.
- (d) The selected depository institution shall serve as a custodian for each certificate of deposit that is issued with the placement service for the local agency's account.
- (e) At the same time the local agency's funds are deposited and the certificates of deposit are issued, the selected depository institution shall receive an amount of deposits from other commercial banks, savings banks, savings and loan associations, or credit unions that, in total, are equal to, or greater than, the full amount of the principal that the local agency initially deposited through the selected depository institution for investment.
- (f) Notwithstanding subdivisions (a) to (e), inclusive, no credit union may act as a selected depository institution under this section or Section 53635.8 unless both of the following conditions are satisfied:
- (1) The credit union offers federal depository insurance through the National Credit Union Administration.
- (2) The credit union is in possession of written guidance or other written communication from the National Credit Union Administration authorizing participation of federally insured credit unions in one or more certificate of deposit placement services and affirming that the moneys held by those credit unions while participating in a deposit placement service will at all times be insured by the federal government.
- (g) It is the intent of the Legislature that this section shall not restrict competition among private sector entities that provide placement services pursuant to this section.
- (h) This section shall become operative on January 1, 2021.

SEC. 3.

Section 53601.8 is added to the Government Code, to read:

53601.8.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this code, a local agency that has the authority under law to invest funds, at its discretion, may invest a portion of its surplus funds in deposits at a commercial bank, savings bank, savings and loan association, or credit union that uses a private sector entity that assists in the placement of deposits. The following conditions shall apply:

- (a) The local agency shall choose a nationally or state-chartered commercial bank, savings bank, savings and loan association, or credit union in this state to invest the funds, which shall be known as the "selected" depository institution.
- (b) The selected depository institution may use a private sector entity to help place local agency deposits with one or more commercial banks, savings banks, savings and loan associations, or credit unions that are located in the United States and are within the network used by the private sector entity for this purpose.
- (c) The selected depository institution shall request that the local agency inform it of depository institutions at which the local agency has other deposits, and the selected depository institution shall provide that information to the private sector entity.
- (d) Any private sector entity used by a selected depository institution to help place its local agency deposits shall maintain policies and procedures requiring all of the following:
- (1) The full amount of each deposit placed pursuant to subdivision (b) and the interest that may accrue on each such deposit shall at all times be insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or the National Credit Union Administration.
- (2) Every depository institution where funds are placed shall be capitalized at a level that is sufficient, and be otherwise eligible, to receive such deposits pursuant to regulations of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or the National Credit Union Administration, as applicable.
- (3) At the time of the local agency's investment with a selected depository institution and no less than monthly thereafter, the private sector entity shall ensure that the local agency is provided with an inventory of all depository institutions in which deposits have been placed on the local agency's behalf, that are within the private sector entity's network.
- (4) Within its network, the private sector entity shall ensure that it does not place additional deposits from a particular local agency with any depository institution identified pursuant to subdivision (c) as holding that local agency's deposits if those additional deposits would result in that local agency's total amount on deposit at that depository institution exceeding the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or the National Credit Union Administration insurance limit.
- (e) If a selected depository uses two or more private sector entities to assist in the placement of a local agency's deposits, the selected depository shall ensure that it does not place additional deposits from a particular local agency with a depository institution if those additional deposits would result in that local agency's total amount on deposit at that depository institution exceeding the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or the National Credit Union Administration insurance limit.
- (f) The selected depository institution shall serve as a custodian for each such deposit.
- (g) On the same date that the local agency's funds are placed pursuant to subdivision (b) by the private sector entity, the selected depository institution shall receive an amount of insured deposits

from other financial institutions that, in total, are equal to, or greater than, the full amount of the principal that the local agency initially deposited through the selected depository institution pursuant to subdivision (b).

- (h) Notwithstanding subdivisions (a) to (g), inclusive, a credit union shall not act as a selected depository institution under this section unless both of the following conditions are satisfied:
- (1) The credit union offers federal depository insurance through the National Credit Union Administration.
- (2) The credit union is in possession of written guidance or other written communication from the National Credit Union Administration authorizing participation of federally insured credit unions in one or more deposit placement services and affirming that the moneys held by those credit unions while participating in a deposit placement service will at all times be insured by the federal government.
- (i) It is the intent of the Legislature that this section shall not restrict competition among private sector entities that provide placement services pursuant to this section.
- (j) The deposits placed pursuant to this section shall be subject to Section 53638 and shall not, in total, exceed 30 percent of the agency's funds that may be invested for this purpose.
- (k) This section shall become operative on January 1, 2026.

SEC. 4.

Section 53635.8 of the Government Code, as amended by Section 3 of Chapter 181 of the Statutes of 2015, is amended to read:

53635.8.

Notwithstanding Section 53601 or any other provision of this code, a local agency that has the authority under law to invest funds, at its discretion, may invest a portion of its surplus funds in deposits at a commercial bank, savings bank, savings and loan association, or credit union that uses a private sector entity that assists in the placement of deposits. The following conditions shall apply:

- (a) The local agency shall choose a nationally or state-chartered commercial bank, savings bank, savings and loan association, or credit union in this state to invest the funds, which shall be known as the "selected" depository institution.
- (b) The selected depository institution may use a private sector entity to help place local agency deposits with one or more commercial banks, savings banks, savings and loan associations, or credit unions that are located in the United States and are within the network used by the private sector entity for this purpose.
- (c) The selected depository institution shall request that the local agency inform it of depository institutions at which the local agency has other deposits, and the selected depository institution shall provide that information to the private sector entity.
- (c) (d) Any private sector entity used by a selected depository institution to help place its local agency deposits shall maintain policies and procedures requiring both all of the following:
- (1) The full amount of each deposit placed pursuant to subdivision (b) and the interest that may accrue on each such deposit shall at all times be insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or the National Credit Union Administration.

- (2) Every depository institution where funds are placed shall be capitalized at a level that is sufficient, and be otherwise eligible, to receive such deposits pursuant to regulations of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or the National Credit Union Administration, as applicable.
- (3) At the time of the local agency's investment with a selected depository institution and no less than monthly thereafter, the private sector entity shall ensure that the local agency is provided with an inventory of all depository institutions in which deposits have been placed on the local agency's behalf, that are within the private sector entity's network.
- (4) Within its network, the private sector entity shall ensure that it does not place additional deposits from a particular local agency with any depository institution identified pursuant to subdivision (c) as holding that local agency's deposits if those additional deposits would result in that local agency's total amount on deposit at that depository institution exceeding the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or the National Credit Union Administration insurance limit.
- (e) If a selected depository uses two or more private sector entities to assist in the placement of a local agency's deposits, the selected depository shall ensure that it does not place additional deposits from a particular local agency with a depository institution if those additional deposits would result in that local agency's total amount on deposit at that depository institution exceeding the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or the National Credit Union Administration insurance limit.
- (d) (f) The selected depository institution shall serve as a custodian for each such deposit.
- (e) (g) On the same date that the local agency's funds are placed pursuant to subdivision (b) by the private sector entity, the selected depository institution shall receive an amount of insured deposits from other financial institutions that, in total, are equal to, or greater than, the full amount of the principal that the local agency initially deposited through the selected depository institution for investment pursuant to subdivision (b).
- (f) (h) Notwithstanding subdivisions (a) to (e), (g), inclusive, a credit union shall not act as a selected depository institution under this section or Section 53601.8 unless both of the following conditions are satisfied:
- (1) The credit union offers federal depository insurance through the National Credit Union Administration.
- (2) The credit union is in possession of written guidance or other written communication from the National Credit Union Administration authorizing participation of federally insured credit unions in one or more deposit placement services and affirming that the moneys held by those credit unions while participating in a deposit placement service will at all times be insured by the federal government.
- (g) (i) It is the intent of the Legislature that this section shall not restrict competition among private sector entities that provide placement services pursuant to this section.
- (h) (j) The deposits placed pursuant to this section and Section 53601.8 shall be subject to Section 53638 and shall not, in total, exceed 30 percent of the agency's funds that may be invested for this purpose.
- (i) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2021, and as of that date is repealed.

SEC. 5.

Section 53635.8 of the Government Code, as amended by Section 4 of Chapter 181 of the Statutes of 2015, is repealed.

53635.8.

- Notwithstanding Section 53601 or any other provision of this code, a local agency that has the authority under law to invest funds, at its discretion, may invest a portion of its surplus funds in certificates of deposit at a commercial bank, savings bank, savings and loan association, or credit union that uses a private sector entity that assists in the placement of certificates of deposit, provided that the purchases of certificates of deposit pursuant to this section, Section 53601.8, and subdivision (i) of Section 53601 do not, in total, exceed 30 percent of the agency's funds that may be invested for this purpose. The following conditions shall apply:
- (a) The local agency shall choose a nationally or state-chartered commercial bank, savings bank, savings and loan association, or credit union in this state to invest the funds, which shall be known as the "selected" depository institution.
- (b) The selected depository institution may submit the funds to a private sector entity that assists in the placement of certificates of deposit with one or more commercial banks, savings banks, savings and loan associations, or credit unions that are located in the United States, for the local agency's account.
- (c) The full amount of the principal and the interest that may be accrued during the maximum term of each certificate of deposit shall at all times be insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or the National Credit Union Administration.
- (d) The selected depository institution shall serve as a custodian for each certificate of deposit that is issued with the placement service for the local agency's account.
- (e) At the same time the local agency's funds are deposited and the certificates of deposit are issued, the selected depository institution shall receive an amount of deposits from other commercial banks, savings banks, savings and loan associations, or credit unions that, in total, are equal to, or greater than, the full amount of the principal that the local agency initially deposited through the selected depository institution for investment.
- (f) Notwithstanding subdivisions (a) to (e), inclusive, a credit union shall not act as a selected depository institution under this section or Section 53601.8 unless both of the following conditions are satisfied:
- (1) The credit union offers federal depository insurance through the National Credit Union Administration.
- (2) The credit union is in possession of written guidance or other written communication from the National Credit Union Administration authorizing participation of federally insured credit unions in one or more certificate of deposit placement services and affirming that the moneys held by those credit unions while participating in a deposit placement service will at all times be insured by the federal government.
- (g) It is the intent of the Legislature that this section shall not restrict competition among private sector entities that provide placement services pursuant to this section.
- (h) This section shall become operative on January 1, 2021.

AB 1361, Chapter 48

Civil actions: satisfaction of money judgements.

Effective Date 1/1/2020

SECTION 1.

Section 695.215 is added to the Code of Civil Procedure, to read:

695.215.

Payment in satisfaction of a money judgment, including payment of a severable portion of the money judgment, interest thereon, and associated costs, does not constitute a waiver of the right to appeal, except to the extent that the payment is the product of compromise or is coupled with an agreement not to appeal. Payment in satisfaction of a severable portion of a money judgment, interest thereon, and associated costs, does not constitute a waiver of the right to appeal other portions of the money judgment.

SEC. 2.

The addition of Section 695.215 of the Code of Civil Procedure made by this act does not constitute a change in, but is declaratory of, existing law.

AB 1637, Chapter 320 Unclaimed Property Law. Effective Date 1/1/2020

SECTION 1.

Section 1540 of the Code of Civil Procedure is amended to read:

1540.

- (a) Any person, excluding another state, who claims to have been the owner, as defined in subdivision (d), of property paid or delivered to the Controller under this chapter may file a claim to the property or to the net proceeds from its sale. The claim shall be on a form prescribed by the Controller and shall be verified by the claimant.
- (b) The Controller shall consider each claim within 180 days after it is filed to determine if the claimant is the owner, as defined in subdivision (d), and may hold a hearing and receive evidence. The Controller shall give written notice to the claimant if he or she the Controller denies the claim in whole or in part. The notice may be given by mailing it to the address, if any, stated in the claim as the address to which notices are to be sent. If no address is stated in the claim, the notice may be mailed to the address, if any, of the claimant as stated in the claim. A notice of denial need not be given if the claim fails to state either an address to which notices are to be sent or an address of the claimant.
- (c) Interest shall not be payable on any claim paid under this chapter.
- (d) Notwithstanding subdivision (g) of Section 1501, for purposes of filing a claim pursuant to this section, "owner" means the person who had legal right to the property prior to before its escheat, his or her the person's heirs or estate representative, his or her the person's guardian or conservator, or a public administrator acting pursuant to the authority granted in Sections 7660 and 7661 of the Probate Code. An "owner" also means a nonprofit civic, charitable, or educational organization that granted a charter, sponsorship, or approval for the existence of the organization that had the legal right to the property prior to before its escheat but that has dissolved or is no longer in existence, if the charter, sponsorship, approval, organization bylaws, or other governing documents provide that unclaimed or surplus property shall be conveyed to the granting organization upon dissolution or cessation to exist as a distinct legal entity. Only an owner, as defined in this subdivision, may file a claim with the Controller pursuant to this article.

- (e) Following a public hearing, the Controller shall adopt guidelines and forms that shall provide specific instructions to assist owners in filing claims pursuant to this article.
- (f) Notwithstanding any other provision, property reported to, and received by, the Controller pursuant to this chapter in the name of a state agency, including the University of California and the California State University, or local agency, may be transferred by the Controller directly to the state or local agency without the filing of a claim. Property transferred pursuant to this subdivision is immune from suit pursuant to Section 1566 in the same manner as if the state or local agency had filed a claim to the property. For purposes of this subdivision, "local agency" means a city, county, city and county, or district.

AB 1743, Chapter 665

Local government: properties eligible to claim or receiving a welfare exemption. Effective Date 1/1/2020

SECTION 1.

Section 53340 of the Government Code is amended to read:

53340.

- (a) After a community facilities district has been created and authorized to levy specified special taxes pursuant to Article 2 (commencing with Section 53318), Article 3 (commencing with Section 53330), or Article 3.5 (commencing with Section 53339), the legislative body may, by ordinance, levy the special taxes at the rate and apportion them in the manner specified in the resolution adopted pursuant to Article 2 (commencing with Section 53318), Article 3 (commencing with Section 53330), or Article 3.5 (commencing with Section 53339). After creation of a community facilities district that includes territory proposed for annexation in the future by unanimous approval as described in subdivision (b) of Section 53339.3, the legislative body may, by ordinance, provide for the levy of special taxes on parcels that will be annexed to the community facilities district at the rate or rates to be approved unanimously by the owner or owners of each parcel or parcels to be annexed to the community facilities district and for apportionment and collection of the special taxes in the manner specified in the resolution of formation.
- (b) The legislative body may provide, by resolution, for the levy of the special tax in the current tax year or future tax years at the same rate or at a lower rate than the rate provided by the ordinance, if the resolution is adopted and a certified list of all parcels subject to the special tax levy including the amount of the tax to be levied on each parcel for the applicable tax year, is filed by the clerk or other official designated by the legislative body with the county auditor on or before the 10th day of August of that tax year. The clerk or other official designated by the legislative body may file the certified list after the 10th of August but not later than the 21st of August if the clerk or other official obtains prior written consent of the county auditor.
- (c) Properties or entities of the state, federal, or local governments and properties receiving a welfare exemption under subdivision (g) of Section 214 of the Revenue and Taxation Code shall, except for properties that a local agency is a landowner of within the meaning of subdivision (f) of Section 53317, or except as otherwise provided in Section 53317.3, be exempt from the special tax. No other properties or entities are exempt from the special tax unless the properties or entities are expressly exempted in the resolution of formation to establish a district adopted pursuant to Section 53325.1 or in a resolution of consideration to levy a new special tax or special taxes or to alter the rate or method of apportionment of an existing special tax as provided in Section 53334.

- (d) The proceeds of any special tax may only be used to pay, in whole or part, the cost of providing public facilities, services, and incidental expenses pursuant to this chapter.
- (e) The special tax shall be collected in the same manner as ordinary ad valorem property taxes are collected and shall be subject to the same penalties and the same procedure, sale, and lien priority in case of delinquency as is provided for ad valorem taxes, unless another procedure has been authorized in the resolution of formation establishing the district and adopted by the legislative body.
- (f) (1) Notwithstanding subdivision (e), the legislative body of the district may waive all or any specified portion of the delinquency penalties and redemption penalties if it makes all of the following determinations:
- (A) The waivers shall apply only to parcels delinquent at the time of the determination.
- (B) The waivers shall be available only with respect to parcels for which all past due and currently due special taxes and all other costs due are paid in full within a limited period of time specified in the determination.
- (C) The waivers shall be available only with respect to parcels sold or otherwise transferred to new owners unrelated to the owner responsible for the delinquency.
- (D) The waivers are in the best interest of the debtholders.
- (2) The charges with penalties to be waived shall be removed from the tax roll pursuant to Section 53356.2 and local administrative procedures, and any distributions made to the district prior to collection pursuant to Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 4701) of Part 8 of Division 1 of the Revenue and Taxation Code shall be repaid by the district prior to granting the waiver.
- (g) The tax collector may collect the special tax at intervals as specified in the resolution of formation, including intervals different from the intervals determining when the ordinary ad valorem property taxes are collected. The tax collector may deduct the reasonable administrative costs incurred in collecting the special tax.
- (h) All special taxes levied by a community facilities district shall be secured by the lien imposed pursuant to Section 3115.5 of the Streets and Highways Code. This lien shall be a continuing lien and shall secure each levy of special taxes. The lien of the special tax shall continue in force and effect until the special tax obligation is prepaid, permanently satisfied, and canceled in accordance with Section 53344 or until the special tax ceases to be levied by the legislative body in the manner provided in Section 53330.5. If any portion of a parcel is encumbered by a lien pursuant to this chapter, the entirety of the parcel shall be encumbered by that lien.
- (i) The amendments to subdivision (c) made by the act adding this subdivision shall apply to taxes imposed by an ordinance adopted on or after January 1, 2020.

SEC. 2.

Section 65008 of the Government Code is amended to read:

65008.

(a) Any action pursuant to this title by any city, county, city and county, or other local governmental agency in this state is null and void if it denies to any individual or group of individuals the enjoyment of residence, landownership, tenancy, or any other land use in this state because of any of the following reasons:

- (1) (A) The lawful occupation, age, or any characteristic of the individual or group of individuals listed in subdivision (a) or (d) of Section 12955, as those bases are defined in Sections 12926, 12926.1, subdivision (m) and paragraph (1) of subdivision (p) of Section 12955 and Section 12955.2.
- (B) Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), with respect to familial status, subparagraph (A) shall not be construed to apply to housing for older persons, as defined in Section 12955.9. With respect to familial status, nothing in subparagraph (A) shall be construed to affect Sections 51.2, 51.3, 51.4, 51.10, 51.11, and 799.5 of the Civil Code, relating to housing for senior citizens. Subdivision (d) of Section 51, Section 4760, and Section 6714 of the Civil Code, and subdivisions (n), (o), and (p) of Section 12955 of this code shall apply to subparagraph (A).
- (2) The method of financing of any residential development of the individual or group of individuals.
- (3) The intended occupancy of any residential development by persons or families of very low, low, moderate, or middle income.
- (b) (1) No city, county, city and county, or other local governmental agency shall, in the enactment or administration of ordinances pursuant to any law, including this title, prohibit or discriminate against any residential development or emergency shelter for any of the following reasons:
- (A) Because of the method of financing.
- (B) (i) Because of the lawful occupation, age, or any characteristic listed in subdivision (a) or (d) of Section 12955, as those characteristics are defined in Sections 12926, 12926.1, subdivision (m) and paragraph (1) of subdivision (p) of Section 12955, and Section 12955.2 of the owners or intended occupants of the residential development or emergency shelter.
- (ii) Notwithstanding clause (i), with respect to familial status, clause (i) shall not be construed to apply to housing for older persons, as defined in Section 12955.9. With respect to familial status, nothing in clause (i) shall be construed to affect Sections 51.2, 51.3, 51.4, 51.10, 51.11, and 799.5 of the Civil Code, relating to housing for senior citizens. Subdivision (d) of Section 51, Section 4760, and Section 6714 of the Civil Code, and subdivisions (n), (o), and (p) of Section 12955 of this code shall apply to clause (i).
- (C) Because the development or shelter is intended for occupancy by persons and families of very low, low, or moderate income, as defined in Section 50093 of the Health and Safety Code, or persons and families of middle income.
- (D) Because the development consists of a multifamily residential project that is consistent with both the jurisdiction's zoning ordinance and general plan as they existed on the date the application was deemed complete, except that a project shall not be deemed to be inconsistent with the zoning designation for the site if that zoning designation is inconsistent with the general plan only because the project site has not been rezoned to conform with a more recently adopted general plan.
- (2) The discrimination prohibited by this subdivision includes the denial or conditioning of a residential development or shelter because of, in whole or in part, either of the following:
- (A) The method of financing.
- (B) The occupancy of the development by persons protected by this subdivision, including, but not limited to, persons and families of very low, low, or moderate income.
- (3) A city, county, city and county, or other local government agency may not, pursuant to subdivision (d) of Section 65589.5, disapprove a housing development project or condition

approval of a housing development project in a manner that renders the project infeasible if the basis for the disapproval or conditional approval includes any of the reasons prohibited in paragraph (1) or (2).

- (c) For the purposes of this section, "persons and families of middle income" means persons and families whose income does not exceed 150 percent of the median income for the county in which the persons or families reside.
- (d) (1) No city, county, city and county, or other local governmental agency may impose different requirements on a residential development or emergency shelter that is subsidized, financed, insured, or otherwise assisted by the federal or state government or by a local public entity, as defined in Section 50079 of the Health and Safety Code, than those imposed on nonassisted developments, except as provided in subdivision (e). The discrimination prohibited by this subdivision includes the denial or conditioning of a residential development or emergency shelter based in whole or in part on the fact that the development is subsidized, financed, insured, or otherwise assisted as described in this paragraph.
- (2) (A) No city, county, city and county, or other local governmental agency may, because of the lawful occupation age, or any characteristic of the intended occupants listed in subdivision (a) or (d) of Section 12955, as those characteristics are defined in Sections 12926, 12926.1, subdivision (m) and paragraph (1) of subdivision (p) of Section 12955, and Section 12955.2 or because the development is intended for occupancy by persons and families of very low, low, moderate, or middle income, impose different requirements on these residential developments than those imposed on developments generally, except as provided in subdivision (e).
- (B) Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), with respect to familial status, subparagraph (A) shall not be construed to apply to housing for older persons, as defined in Section 12955.9. With respect to familial status, nothing in subparagraph (A) shall be construed to affect Sections 51.2, 51.3, 51.4, 51.10, 51.11, and 799.5 of the Civil Code, relating to housing for senior citizens. Subdivision (d) of Section 51, Section 4760, and Section 6714 of the Civil Code, and subdivisions (n), (o), and (p) of Section 12955 of this code shall apply to subparagraph (A).
- (e) Notwithstanding subdivisions (a) to (d), inclusive, this section and this title do not prohibit either of the following:
- (1) The County of Riverside from enacting and enforcing zoning to provide housing for older persons, in accordance with state or federal law, if that zoning was enacted prior to January 1, 1995.
- (2) Any city, county, or city and county from extending preferential treatment to residential developments or emergency shelters assisted by the federal or state government or by a local public entity, as defined in Section 50079 of the Health and Safety Code, or other residential developments or emergency shelters intended for occupancy by persons and families of low and moderate income, as defined in Section 50093 of the Health and Safety Code, or persons and families of middle income, or agricultural employees, as defined in subdivision (b) of Section 1140.4 of the Labor Code, and their families. This preferential treatment may include, but need not be limited to, reduction or waiver of fees or changes in architectural requirements, site development and property line requirements, building setback requirements, or vehicle parking requirements that reduce development costs of these developments.
- (f) For purposes of this section, both of the following shall apply:
- (1) "Method of financing" includes the eligibility to claim a welfare exemption under subdivision (g) of Section 214 of the Revenue and Taxation Code.

- (f) (2) "Residential development," as used in this section, development" means a single-family residence or a multifamily residence, including manufactured homes, as defined in Section 18007 of the Health and Safety Code.
- (g) This section shall apply to chartered cities.
- (h) The Legislature finds and declares that discriminatory practices that inhibit the development of housing for persons and families of very low, low, moderate, and middle incomes, or emergency shelters for the homeless, are a matter of statewide concern.

SEC. 3.

Section 65589.5 of the Government Code is amended to read:

65589.5.

- (a) (1) The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:
- (A) The lack of housing, including emergency shelters, is a critical problem that threatens the economic, environmental, and social quality of life in California.
- (B) California housing has become the most expensive in the nation. The excessive cost of the state's housing supply is partially caused by activities and policies of many local governments that limit the approval of housing, increase the cost of land for housing, and require that high fees and exactions be paid by producers of housing.
- (C) Among the consequences of those actions are discrimination against low-income and minority households, lack of housing to support employment growth, imbalance in jobs and housing, reduced mobility, urban sprawl, excessive commuting, and air quality deterioration.
- (D) Many local governments do not give adequate attention to the economic, environmental, and social costs of decisions that result in disapproval of housing development projects, reduction in density of housing projects, and excessive standards for housing development projects.
- (2) In enacting the amendments made to this section by the act adding this paragraph, the Legislature further finds and declares the following:
- (A) California has a housing supply and affordability crisis of historic proportions. The consequences of failing to effectively and aggressively confront this crisis are hurting millions of Californians, robbing future generations of the chance to call California home, stifling economic opportunities for workers and businesses, worsening poverty and homelessness, and undermining the state's environmental and climate objectives.
- (B) While the causes of this crisis are multiple and complex, the absence of meaningful and effective policy reforms to significantly enhance the approval and supply of housing affordable to Californians of all income levels is a key factor.
- (C) The crisis has grown so acute in California that supply, demand, and affordability fundamentals are characterized in the negative: underserved demands, constrained supply, and protracted unaffordability.
- (D) According to reports and data, California has accumulated an unmet housing backlog of nearly 2,000,000 units and must provide for at least 180,000 new units annually to keep pace with growth through 2025.
- (E) California's overall homeownership rate is at its lowest level since the 1940s. The state ranks 49th out of the 50 states in homeownership rates as well as in the supply of housing per capita. Only one-half of California's households are able to afford the cost of housing in their local regions.

- (F) Lack of supply and rising costs are compounding inequality and limiting advancement opportunities for many Californians.
- (G) The majority of California renters, more than 3,000,000 households, pay more than 30 percent of their income toward rent and nearly one-third, more than 1,500,000 households, pay more than 50 percent of their income toward rent.
- (H) When Californians have access to safe and affordable housing, they have more money for food and health care; they are less likely to become homeless and in need of government-subsidized services; their children do better in school; and businesses have an easier time recruiting and retaining employees.
- (I) An additional consequence of the state's cumulative housing shortage is a significant increase in greenhouse gas emissions caused by the displacement and redirection of populations to states with greater housing opportunities, particularly working- and middle-class households. California's cumulative housing shortfall therefore has not only national but international environmental consequences.
- (J) California's housing picture has reached a crisis of historic proportions despite the fact that, for decades, the Legislature has enacted numerous statutes intended to significantly increase the approval, development, and affordability of housing for all income levels, including this section.
- (K) The Legislature's intent in enacting this section in 1982 and in expanding its provisions since then was to significantly increase the approval and construction of new housing for all economic segments of California's communities by meaningfully and effectively curbing the capability of local governments to deny, reduce the density for, or render infeasible housing development projects and emergency shelters. That intent has not been fulfilled.
- (L) It is the policy of the state that this section should be interpreted and implemented in a manner to afford the fullest possible weight to the interest of, and the approval and provision of, housing.
- (3) It is the intent of the Legislature that the conditions that would have a specific, adverse impact upon the public health and safety, as described in paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) and paragraph (1) of subdivision (j), arise infrequently.
- (b) It is the policy of the state that a local government not reject or make infeasible housing development projects, including emergency shelters, that contribute to meeting the need determined pursuant to this article without a thorough analysis of the economic, social, and environmental effects of the action and without complying with subdivision (d).
- (c) The Legislature also recognizes that premature and unnecessary development of agricultural lands for urban uses continues to have adverse effects on the availability of those lands for food and fiber production and on the economy of the state. Furthermore, it is the policy of the state that development should be guided away from prime agricultural lands; therefore, in implementing this section, local jurisdictions should encourage, to the maximum extent practicable, in filling existing urban areas.
- (d) A local agency shall not disapprove a housing development project, including farmworker housing as defined in subdivision (h) of Section 50199.7 of the Health and Safety Code, for very low, low-, or moderate-income households, or an emergency shelter, or condition approval in a manner that renders the housing development project infeasible for development for the use of very low, low-, or moderate-income households, or an emergency shelter, including through the use of design review standards, unless it makes written findings, based upon a preponderance of the evidence in the record, as to one of the following:

- (1) The jurisdiction has adopted a housing element pursuant to this article that has been revised in accordance with Section 65588, is in substantial compliance with this article, and the jurisdiction has met or exceeded its share of the regional housing need allocation pursuant to Section 65584 for the planning period for the income category proposed for the housing development project, provided that any disapproval or conditional approval shall not be based on any of the reasons prohibited by Section 65008. If the housing development project includes a mix of income categories, and the jurisdiction has not met or exceeded its share of the regional housing need for one or more of those categories, then this paragraph shall not be used to disapprove or conditionally approve the housing development project. The share of the regional housing need met by the jurisdiction shall be calculated consistently with the forms and definitions that may be adopted by the Department of Housing and Community Development pursuant to Section 65400. In the case of an emergency shelter, the jurisdiction shall have met or exceeded the need for emergency shelter, as identified pursuant to paragraph (7) of subdivision (a) of Section 65583. Any disapproval or conditional approval pursuant to this paragraph shall be in accordance with applicable law, rule, or standards.
- (2) The housing development project or emergency shelter as proposed would have a specific, adverse impact upon the public health or safety, and there is no feasible method to satisfactorily mitigate or avoid the specific adverse impact without rendering the development unaffordable to low- and moderate-income households or rendering the development of the emergency shelter financially infeasible. As used in this paragraph, a "specific, adverse impact" means a significant, quantifiable, direct, and unavoidable impact, based on objective, identified written public health or safety standards, policies, or conditions as they existed on the date the application was deemed complete. Inconsistency with the zoning ordinance or general plan land use designation. The following shall not constitute a specific, adverse impact upon the public health or safety:
- (A) Inconsistency with the zoning ordinance or general plan land use designation.
- (B) The eligibility to claim a welfare exemption under subdivision (g) of Section 214 of the Revenue and Taxation Code.
- (3) The denial of the housing development project or imposition of conditions is required in order to comply with specific state or federal law, and there is no feasible method to comply without rendering the development unaffordable to low- and moderate-income households or rendering the development of the emergency shelter financially infeasible.
- (4) The housing development project or emergency shelter is proposed on land zoned for agriculture or resource preservation that is surrounded on at least two sides by land being used for agricultural or resource preservation purposes, or which does not have adequate water or wastewater facilities to serve the project.
- (5) The housing development project or emergency shelter is inconsistent with both the jurisdiction's zoning ordinance and general plan land use designation as specified in any element of the general plan as it existed on the date the application was deemed complete, and the jurisdiction has adopted a revised housing element in accordance with Section 65588 that is in substantial compliance with this article. For purposes of this section, a change to the zoning ordinance or general plan land use designation subsequent to the date the application was deemed complete shall not constitute a valid basis to disapprove or condition approval of the housing development project or emergency shelter.
- (A) This paragraph cannot be utilized to disapprove or conditionally approve a housing development project if the housing development project is proposed on a site that is identified as suitable or available for very low, low-, or moderate-income households in the jurisdiction's housing

element, and consistent with the density specified in the housing element, even though it is inconsistent with both the jurisdiction's zoning ordinance and general plan land use designation.

- (B) If the local agency has failed to identify in the inventory of land in its housing element sites that can be developed for housing within the planning period and are sufficient to provide for the jurisdiction's share of the regional housing need for all income levels pursuant to Section 65584, then this paragraph shall not be utilized to disapprove or conditionally approve a housing development project proposed for a site designated in any element of the general plan for residential uses or designated in any element of the general plan for commercial uses if residential uses are permitted or conditionally permitted within commercial designations. In any action in court, the burden of proof shall be on the local agency to show that its housing element does identify adequate sites with appropriate zoning and development standards and with services and facilities to accommodate the local agency's share of the regional housing need for the very low, low-, and moderate-income categories.
- (C) If the local agency has failed to identify a zone or zones where emergency shelters are allowed as a permitted use without a conditional use or other discretionary permit, has failed to demonstrate that the identified zone or zones include sufficient capacity to accommodate the need for emergency shelter identified in paragraph (7) of subdivision (a) of Section 65583, or has failed to demonstrate that the identified zone or zones can accommodate at least one emergency shelter, as required by paragraph (4) of subdivision (a) of Section 65583, then this paragraph shall not be utilized to disapprove or conditionally approve an emergency shelter proposed for a site designated in any element of the general plan for industrial, commercial, or multifamily residential uses. In any action in court, the burden of proof shall be on the local agency to show that its housing element does satisfy the requirements of paragraph (4) of subdivision (a) of Section 65583.
- (e) Nothing in this section shall be construed to relieve the local agency from complying with the congestion management program required by Chapter 2.6 (commencing with Section 65088) of Division 1 of Title 7 or the California Coastal Act of 1976 (Division 20 (commencing with Section 30000) of the Public Resources Code). Neither shall anything in this section be construed to relieve the local agency from making one or more of the findings required pursuant to Section 21081 of the Public Resources Code or otherwise complying with the California Environmental Quality Act (Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code).
- (f) (1) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit a local agency from requiring the housing development project to comply with objective, quantifiable, written development standards, conditions, and policies appropriate to, and consistent with, meeting the jurisdiction's share of the regional housing need pursuant to Section 65584. However, the development standards, conditions, and policies shall be applied to facilitate and accommodate development at the density permitted on the site and proposed by the development.
- (2) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit a local agency from requiring an emergency shelter project to comply with objective, quantifiable, written development standards, conditions, and policies that are consistent with paragraph (4) of subdivision (a) of Section 65583 and appropriate to, and consistent with, meeting the jurisdiction's need for emergency shelter, as identified pursuant to paragraph (7) of subdivision (a) of Section 65583. However, the development standards, conditions, and policies shall be applied by the local agency to facilitate and accommodate the development of the emergency shelter project.
- (3) This section does not prohibit a local agency from imposing fees and other exactions otherwise authorized by law that are essential to provide necessary public services and facilities to the housing development project or emergency shelter.

- (4) For purposes of this section, a housing development project or emergency shelter shall be deemed consistent, compliant, and in conformity with an applicable plan, program, policy, ordinance, standard, requirement, or other similar provision if there is substantial evidence that would allow a reasonable person to conclude that the housing development project or emergency shelter is consistent, compliant, or in conformity.
- (g) This section shall be applicable to charter cities because the Legislature finds that the lack of housing, including emergency shelter, is a critical statewide problem.
- (h) The following definitions apply for the purposes of this section:
- (1) "Feasible" means capable of being accomplished in a successful manner within a reasonable period of time, taking into account economic, environmental, social, and technological factors.
- (2) "Housing development project" means a use consisting of any of the following:
- (A) Residential units only.
- (B) Mixed-use developments consisting of residential and nonresidential uses with at least twothirds of the square footage designated for residential use.
- (C) Transitional housing or supportive housing.
- (3) "Housing for very low, low-, or moderate-income households" means that either (A) at least 20 percent of the total units shall be sold or rented to lower income households, as defined in Section 50079.5 of the Health and Safety Code, or (B) 100 percent of the units shall be sold or rented to persons and families of moderate income as defined in Section 50093 of the Health and Safety Code, or persons and families of middle income, as defined in Section 65008 of this code. Housing units targeted for lower income households shall be made available at a monthly housing cost that does not exceed 30 percent of 60 percent of area median income with adjustments for household size made in accordance with the adjustment factors on which the lower income eligibility limits are based. Housing units targeted for persons and families of moderate income shall be made available at a monthly housing cost that does not exceed 30 percent of 100 percent of area median income with adjustments for household size made in accordance with the adjustment factors on which the moderate-income eligibility limits are based.
- (4) "Area median income" means area median income as periodically established by the Department of Housing and Community Development pursuant to Section 50093 of the Health and Safety Code. The developer shall provide sufficient legal commitments to ensure continued availability of units for very low or low-income households in accordance with the provisions of this subdivision for 30 years.
- (5) "Disapprove the housing development project" includes any instance in which a local agency does either of the following:
- (A) Votes on a proposed housing development project application and the application is disapproved, including any required land use approvals or entitlements necessary for the issuance of a building permit.
- (B) Fails to comply with the time periods specified in subdivision (a) of Section 65950. An extension of time pursuant to Article 5 (commencing with Section 65950) shall be deemed to be an extension of time pursuant to this paragraph.
- (i) If any city, county, or city and county denies approval or imposes conditions, including design changes, lower density, or a reduction of the percentage of a lot that may be occupied by a building or structure under the applicable planning and zoning in force at the time the application is

deemed complete pursuant to Section 65943, that have a substantial adverse effect on the viability or affordability of a housing development for very low, low-, or moderate-income households, and the denial of the development or the imposition of conditions on the development is the subject of a court action which challenges the denial or the imposition of conditions, then the burden of proof shall be on the local legislative body to show that its decision is consistent with the findings as described in subdivision (d) and that the findings are supported by a preponderance of the evidence in the record. For purposes of this section, "lower density" includes any conditions that have the same effect or impact on the ability of the project to provide housing.

- (j) (1) When a proposed housing development project complies with applicable, objective general plan, zoning, and subdivision standards and criteria, including design review standards, in effect at the time that the housing development project's application is determined to be complete, but the local agency proposes to disapprove the project or to impose a condition that the project be developed at a lower density, the local agency shall base its decision regarding the proposed housing development project upon written findings supported by a preponderance of the evidence on the record that both of the following conditions exist:
- (A) The housing development project would have a specific, adverse impact upon the public health or safety unless the project is disapproved or approved upon the condition that the project be developed at a lower density. As used in this paragraph, a "specific, adverse impact" means a significant, quantifiable, direct, and unavoidable impact, based on objective, identified written public health or safety standards, policies, or conditions as they existed on the date the application was deemed complete.
- (B) There is no feasible method to satisfactorily mitigate or avoid the adverse impact identified pursuant to paragraph (1), other than the disapproval of the housing development project or the approval of the project upon the condition that it be developed at a lower density.
- (2) (A) If the local agency considers a proposed housing development project to be inconsistent, not in compliance, or not in conformity with an applicable plan, program, policy, ordinance, standard, requirement, or other similar provision as specified in this subdivision, it shall provide the applicant with written documentation identifying the provision or provisions, and an explanation of the reason or reasons it considers the housing development to be inconsistent, not in compliance, or not in conformity as follows:
- (i) Within 30 days of the date that the application for the housing development project is determined to be complete, if the housing development project contains 150 or fewer housing units.
- (ii) Within 60 days of the date that the application for the housing development project is determined to be complete, if the housing development project contains more than 150 units.
- (B) If the local agency fails to provide the required documentation pursuant to subparagraph (A), the housing development project shall be deemed consistent, compliant, and in conformity with the applicable plan, program, policy, ordinance, standard, requirement, or other similar provision.
- 3) For purposes of this section, the receipt of a density bonus pursuant to Section 65915 shall not constitute a valid basis on which to find a proposed housing development project is inconsistent, not in compliance, or not in conformity, with an applicable plan, program, policy, ordinance, standard, requirement, or other similar provision specified in this subdivision.
- (4) For purposes of this section, a proposed housing development project is not inconsistent with the applicable zoning standards and criteria, and shall not require a rezoning, if the housing development project is consistent with the objective general plan standards and criteria but the

zoning for the project site is inconsistent with the general plan. If the local agency has complied with paragraph (2), the local agency may require the proposed housing development project to comply with the objective standards and criteria of the zoning which is consistent with the general plan, however, the standards and criteria shall be applied to facilitate and accommodate development at the density allowed on the site by the general plan and proposed by the proposed housing development project.

- (5) For purposes of this section, "lower density" includes any conditions that have the same effect or impact on the ability of the project to provide housing.
- (k) (1) (A) The applicant, a person who would be eligible to apply for residency in the development or emergency shelter, or a housing organization may bring an action to enforce this section. If, in any action brought to enforce this section, a court finds that either (i) the local agency, in violation of subdivision (d), disapproved a housing development project or conditioned its approval in a manner rendering it infeasible for the development of an emergency shelter, or housing for very low, low-, or moderate-income households, including farmworker housing, without making the findings required by this section or without making findings supported by a preponderance of the evidence, or (ii) the local agency, in violation of subdivision (j), disapproved a housing development project complying with applicable, objective general plan and zoning standards and criteria, or imposed a condition that the project be developed at a lower density, without making the findings required by this section or without making findings supported by a preponderance of the evidence. the court shall issue an order or judgment compelling compliance with this section within 60 days. including, but not limited to, an order that the local agency take action on the housing development project or emergency shelter. The court may issue an order or judgment directing the local agency to approve the housing development project or emergency shelter if the court finds that the local agency acted in bad faith when it disapproved or conditionally approved the housing development or emergency shelter in violation of this section. The court shall retain jurisdiction to ensure that its order or judgment is carried out and shall award reasonable attorney's fees and costs of suit to the plaintiff or petitioner, except under extraordinary circumstances in which the court finds that awarding fees would not further the purposes of this section. For purposes of this section, "lower density" includes conditions that have the same effect or impact on the ability of the project to provide housing.
- (B) (i) Upon a determination that the local agency has failed to comply with the order or judgment compelling compliance with this section within 60 days issued pursuant to subparagraph (A), the court shall impose fines on a local agency that has violated this section and require the local agency to deposit any fine levied pursuant to this subdivision into a local housing trust fund. The local agency may elect to instead deposit the fine into the Building Homes and Jobs Fund, if Senate Bill 2 of the 2017–18 Regular Session is enacted, or otherwise in the Housing Rehabilitation Loan Fund. The fine shall be in a minimum amount of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) per housing unit in the housing development project on the date the application was deemed complete pursuant to Section 65943. In determining the amount of fine to impose, the court shall consider the local agency's progress in attaining its target allocation of the regional housing need pursuant to Section 65584 and any prior violations of this section. Fines shall not be paid out of funds already dedicated to affordable housing, including, but not limited to, Low and Moderate Income Housing Asset Funds, funds dedicated to housing for very low, low-, and moderate-income households, and federal HOME Investment Partnerships Program and Community Development Block Grant Program funds. The local agency shall commit and expend the money in the local housing trust fund within five years for the sole purpose of financing newly constructed housing units affordable to extremely low, very low, or low-income households. After five years, if the funds have not been expended, the money shall revert to the state and be deposited in the Building Homes and Jobs Fund, if Senate Bill 2 of the 2017-18 Regular Session is

enacted, or otherwise in the Housing Rehabilitation Loan Fund, for the sole purpose of financing newly constructed housing units affordable to extremely low, very low, or low-income households.

- (ii) If any money derived from a fine imposed pursuant to this subparagraph is deposited in the Housing Rehabilitation Loan Fund, then, notwithstanding Section 50661 of the Health and Safety Code, that money shall be available only upon appropriation by the Legislature.
- (C) If the court determines that its order or judgment has not been carried out within 60 days, the court may issue further orders as provided by law to ensure that the purposes and policies of this section are fulfilled, including, but not limited to, an order to vacate the decision of the local agency and to approve the housing development project, in which case the application for the housing development project, as proposed by the applicant at the time the local agency took the initial action determined to be in violation of this section, along with any standard conditions determined by the court to be generally imposed by the local agency on similar projects, shall be deemed to be approved unless the applicant consents to a different decision or action by the local agency.
- (2) For purposes of this subdivision, "housing organization" means a trade or industry group whose local members are primarily engaged in the construction or management of housing units or a nonprofit organization whose mission includes providing or advocating for increased access to housing for low-income households and have filed written or oral comments with the local agency prior to action on the housing development project. A housing organization may only file an action pursuant to this section to challenge the disapproval of a housing development by a local agency. A housing organization shall be entitled to reasonable attorney's fees and costs if it is the prevailing party in an action to enforce this section.
- (I) If the court finds that the local agency (1) acted in bad faith when it disapproved or conditionally approved the housing development or emergency shelter in violation of this section and (2) failed to carry out the court's order or judgment within 60 days as described in subdivision (k), the court, in addition to any other remedies provided by this section, shall multiply the fine determined pursuant to subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (k) by a factor of five. For purposes of this section, "bad faith" includes, but is not limited to, an action that is frivolous or otherwise entirely without merit.
- (m) Any action brought to enforce the provisions of this section shall be brought pursuant to Section 1094.5 of the Code of Civil Procedure, and the local agency shall prepare and certify the record of proceedings in accordance with subdivision (c) of Section 1094.6 of the Code of Civil Procedure no later than 30 days after the petition is served, provided that the cost of preparation of the record shall be borne by the local agency, unless the petitioner elects to prepare the record as provided in subdivision (n) of this section. A petition to enforce the provisions of this section shall be filed and served no later than 90 days from the later of (1) the effective date of a decision of the local agency imposing conditions on, disapproving, or any other final action on a housing development project or (2) the expiration of the time periods specified in subparagraph (B) of paragraph (5) of subdivision (h). Upon entry of the trial court's order, a party may, in order to obtain appellate review of the order, file a petition within 20 days after service upon it of a written notice of the entry of the order, or within such further time not exceeding an additional 20 days as the trial court may for good cause allow, or may appeal the judgment or order of the trial court under Section 904.1 of the Code of Civil Procedure. If the local agency appeals the judgment of the trial court, the local agency shall post a bond, in an amount to be determined by the court, to the benefit of the plaintiff if the plaintiff is the project applicant.
- (n) In any action, the record of the proceedings before the local agency shall be filed as expeditiously as possible and, notwithstanding Section 1094.6 of the Code of Civil Procedure or subdivision (m) of this section, all or part of the record may be prepared (1) by the petitioner with

the petition or petitioner's points and authorities, (2) by the respondent with respondent's points and authorities, (3) after payment of costs by the petitioner, or (4) as otherwise directed by the court. If the expense of preparing the record has been borne by the petitioner and the petitioner is the prevailing party, the expense shall be taxable as costs.

(o) This section shall be known, and may be cited, as the Housing Accountability Act.

SEC. 3.1.

Section 65589.5 of the Government Code is amended to read:

65589.5.

- (a) (1) The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:
- (A) The lack of housing, including emergency shelters, is a critical problem that threatens the economic, environmental, and social quality of life in California.
- (B) California housing has become the most expensive in the nation. The excessive cost of the state's housing supply is partially caused by activities and policies of many local governments that limit the approval of housing, increase the cost of land for housing, and require that high fees and exactions be paid by producers of housing.
- (C) Among the consequences of those actions are discrimination against low-income and minority households, lack of housing to support employment growth, imbalance in jobs and housing, reduced mobility, urban sprawl, excessive commuting, and air quality deterioration.
- (D) Many local governments do not give adequate attention to the economic, environmental, and social costs of decisions that result in disapproval of housing development projects, reduction in density of housing projects, and excessive standards for housing development projects.
- (2) In enacting the amendments made to this section by the act adding this paragraph, the Legislature further finds and declares the following:
- (A) California has a housing supply and affordability crisis of historic proportions. The consequences of failing to effectively and aggressively confront this crisis are hurting millions of Californians, robbing future generations of the chance to call California home, stifling economic opportunities for workers and businesses, worsening poverty and homelessness, and undermining the state's environmental and climate objectives.
- (B) While the causes of this crisis are multiple and complex, the absence of meaningful and effective policy reforms to significantly enhance the approval and supply of housing affordable to Californians of all income levels is a key factor.
- (C) The crisis has grown so acute in California that supply, demand, and affordability fundamentals are characterized in the negative: underserved demands, constrained supply, and protracted unaffordability.
- (D) According to reports and data, California has accumulated an unmet housing backlog of nearly 2,000,000 units and must provide for at least 180,000 new units annually to keep pace with growth through 2025.
- (E) California's overall homeownership rate is at its lowest level since the 1940s. The state ranks 49th out of the 50 states in homeownership rates as well as in the supply of housing per capita. Only one-half of California's households are able to afford the cost of housing in their local regions.
- (F) Lack of supply and rising costs are compounding inequality and limiting advancement opportunities for many Californians.

- (G) The majority of California renters, more than 3,000,000 households, pay more than 30 percent of their income toward rent and nearly one-third, more than 1,500,000 households, pay more than 50 percent of their income toward rent.
- (H) When Californians have access to safe and affordable housing, they have more money for food and health care; they are less likely to become homeless and in need of government-subsidized services; their children do better in school; and businesses have an easier time recruiting and retaining employees.
- (I) An additional consequence of the state's cumulative housing shortage is a significant increase in greenhouse gas emissions caused by the displacement and redirection of populations to states with greater housing opportunities, particularly working- and middle-class households. California's cumulative housing shortfall therefore has not only national but international environmental consequences.
- (J) California's housing picture has reached a crisis of historic proportions despite the fact that, for decades, the Legislature has enacted numerous statutes intended to significantly increase the approval, development, and affordability of housing for all income levels, including this section.
- (K) The Legislature's intent in enacting this section in 1982 and in expanding its provisions since then was to significantly increase the approval and construction of new housing for all economic segments of California's communities by meaningfully and effectively curbing the capability of local governments to deny, reduce the density for, or render infeasible housing development projects and emergency shelters. That intent has not been fulfilled.
- (L) It is the policy of the state that this section should be interpreted and implemented in a manner to afford the fullest possible weight to the interest of, and the approval and provision of, housing.
- (3) It is the intent of the Legislature that the conditions that would have a specific, adverse impact upon the public health and safety, as described in paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) and paragraph (1) of subdivision (j), arise infrequently.
- (b) It is the policy of the state that a local government not reject or make infeasible housing development projects, including emergency shelters, that contribute to meeting the need determined pursuant to this article without a thorough analysis of the economic, social, and environmental effects of the action and without complying with subdivision (d).
- (c) The Legislature also recognizes that premature and unnecessary development of agricultural lands for urban uses continues to have adverse effects on the availability of those lands for food and fiber production and on the economy of the state. Furthermore, it is the policy of the state that development should be guided away from prime agricultural lands; therefore, in implementing this section, local jurisdictions should encourage, to the maximum extent practicable, in filling existing urban areas.
- (d) A local agency shall not disapprove a housing development project, including farmworker housing as defined in subdivision (h) of Section 50199.7 of the Health and Safety Code, for very low, low-, or moderate-income households, or an emergency shelter, or condition approval in a manner that renders the housing development project infeasible for development for the use of very low, low-, or moderate-income households, or an emergency shelter, including through the use of design review standards, unless it makes written findings, based upon a preponderance of the evidence in the record, as to one of the following:
- (1) The jurisdiction has adopted a housing element pursuant to this article that has been revised in accordance with Section 65588, is in substantial compliance with this article, and the jurisdiction

has met or exceeded its share of the regional housing need allocation pursuant to Section 65584 for the planning period for the income category proposed for the housing development project, provided that any disapproval or conditional approval shall not be based on any of the reasons prohibited by Section 65008. If the housing development project includes a mix of income categories, and the jurisdiction has not met or exceeded its share of the regional housing need for one or more of those categories, then this paragraph shall not be used to disapprove or conditionally approve the housing development project. The share of the regional housing need met by the jurisdiction shall be calculated consistently with the forms and definitions that may be adopted by the Department of Housing and Community Development pursuant to Section 65400. In the case of an emergency shelter, the jurisdiction shall have met or exceeded the need for emergency shelter, as identified pursuant to paragraph (7) of subdivision (a) of Section 65583. Any disapproval or conditional approval pursuant to this paragraph shall be in accordance with applicable law, rule, or standards.

- (2) The housing development project or emergency shelter as proposed would have a specific, adverse impact upon the public health or safety, and there is no feasible method to satisfactorily mitigate or avoid the specific adverse impact without rendering the development unaffordable to low- and moderate-income households or rendering the development of the emergency shelter financially infeasible. As used in this paragraph, a "specific, adverse impact" means a significant, quantifiable, direct, and unavoidable impact, based on objective, identified written public health or safety standards, policies, or conditions as they existed on the date the application was deemed complete. Inconsistency with the zoning ordinance or general plan land use designation. The following shall not constitute a specific, adverse impact upon the public health or safety:
- (A) Inconsistency with the zoning ordinance or general plan land use designation.
- (B) The eligibility to claim a welfare exemption under subdivision (g) of Section 214 of the Revenue and Taxation Code.
- (3) The denial of the housing development project or imposition of conditions is required in order to comply with specific state or federal law, and there is no feasible method to comply without rendering the development unaffordable to low- and moderate-income households or rendering the development of the emergency shelter financially infeasible.
- (4) The housing development project or emergency shelter is proposed on land zoned for agriculture or resource preservation that is surrounded on at least two sides by land being used for agricultural or resource preservation purposes, or which does not have adequate water or wastewater facilities to serve the project.
- (5) The housing development project or emergency shelter is inconsistent with both the jurisdiction's zoning ordinance and general plan land use designation as specified in any element of the general plan as it existed on the date the application was deemed complete, and the jurisdiction has adopted a revised housing element in accordance with Section 65588 that is in substantial compliance with this article. For purposes of this section, a change to the zoning ordinance or general plan land use designation subsequent to the date the application was deemed complete shall not constitute a valid basis to disapprove or condition approval of the housing development project or emergency shelter.
- (A) This paragraph cannot be utilized to disapprove or conditionally approve a housing development project if the housing development project is proposed on a site that is identified as suitable or available for very low, low-, or moderate-income households in the jurisdiction's housing element, and consistent with the density specified in the housing element, even though it is inconsistent with both the jurisdiction's zoning ordinance and general plan land use designation.

- (B) If the local agency has failed to identify in the inventory of land in its housing element sites that can be developed for housing within the planning period and are sufficient to provide for the jurisdiction's share of the regional housing need for all income levels pursuant to Section 65584, then this paragraph shall not be utilized to disapprove or conditionally approve a housing development project proposed for a site designated in any element of the general plan for residential uses or designated in any element of the general plan for commercial uses if residential uses are permitted or conditionally permitted within commercial designations. In any action in court, the burden of proof shall be on the local agency to show that its housing element does identify adequate sites with appropriate zoning and development standards and with services and facilities to accommodate the local agency's share of the regional housing need for the very low, low-, and moderate-income categories.
- (C) If the local agency has failed to identify a zone or zones where emergency shelters are allowed as a permitted use without a conditional use or other discretionary permit, has failed to demonstrate that the identified zone or zones include sufficient capacity to accommodate the need for emergency shelter identified in paragraph (7) of subdivision (a) of Section 65583, or has failed to demonstrate that the identified zone or zones can accommodate at least one emergency shelter, as required by paragraph (4) of subdivision (a) of Section 65583, then this paragraph shall not be utilized to disapprove or conditionally approve an emergency shelter proposed for a site designated in any element of the general plan for industrial, commercial, or multifamily residential uses. In any action in court, the burden of proof shall be on the local agency to show that its housing element does satisfy the requirements of paragraph (4) of subdivision (a) of Section 65583.
- (e) Nothing in this section shall be construed to relieve the local agency from complying with the congestion management program required by Chapter 2.6 (commencing with Section 65088) of Division 1 of Title 7 or the California Coastal Act of 1976 (Division 20 (commencing with Section 30000) of the Public Resources Code). Neither shall anything in this section be construed to relieve the local agency from making one or more of the findings required pursuant to Section 21081 of the Public Resources Code or otherwise complying with the California Environmental Quality Act (Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code).
- (f) (1) Nothing in this section Except as provided in subdivision (o), nothing in shall be construed to prohibit a local agency from requiring the housing development project to comply with objective, quantifiable, written development standards, conditions, and policies appropriate to, and consistent with, meeting the jurisdiction's share of the regional housing need pursuant to Section 65584. However, the development standards, conditions, and policies shall be applied to facilitate and accommodate development at the density permitted on the site and proposed by the development.
- (2) Nothing in this section. Except as provided in subdivision (o), nothing in shall be construed to prohibit a local agency from requiring an emergency shelter project to comply with objective, quantifiable, written development standards, conditions, and policies that are consistent with paragraph (4) of subdivision (a) of Section 65583 and appropriate to, and consistent with, meeting the jurisdiction's need for emergency shelter, as identified pursuant to paragraph (7) of subdivision (a) of Section 65583. However, the development standards, conditions, and policies shall be applied by the local agency to facilitate and accommodate the development of the emergency shelter project.
- (3) This section does not Except as provided in subdivision (o), nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit a local agency from imposing fees and other exactions otherwise authorized by law that are essential to provide necessary public services and facilities to the housing development project or emergency shelter.

- (4) For purposes of this section, a housing development project or emergency shelter shall be deemed consistent, compliant, and in conformity with an applicable plan, program, policy, ordinance, standard, requirement, or other similar provision if there is substantial evidence that would allow a reasonable person to conclude that the housing development project or emergency shelter is consistent, compliant, or in conformity.
- (g) This section shall be applicable to charter cities because the Legislature finds that the lack of housing, including emergency shelter, is a critical statewide problem.
- (h) The following definitions apply for the purposes of this section:
- (1) "Feasible" means capable of being accomplished in a successful manner within a reasonable period of time, taking into account economic, environmental, social, and technological factors.
- (2) "Housing development project" means a use consisting of any of the following:
- (A) Residential units only.
- (B) Mixed-use developments consisting of residential and nonresidential uses with at least twothirds of the square footage designated for residential use.
- (C) Transitional housing or supportive housing.
- (3) "Housing for very low, low-, or moderate-income households" means that either (A) at least 20 percent of the total units shall be sold or rented to lower income households, as defined in Section 50079.5 of the Health and Safety Code, or (B) 100 percent of the units shall be sold or rented to persons and families of moderate income as defined in Section 50093 of the Health and Safety Code, or persons and families of middle income, as defined in Section 65008 of this code. Housing units targeted for lower income households shall be made available at a monthly housing cost that does not exceed 30 percent of 60 percent of area median income with adjustments for household size made in accordance with the adjustment factors on which the lower income eligibility limits are based. Housing units targeted for persons and families of moderate income shall be made available at a monthly housing cost that does not exceed 30 percent of 100 percent of area median income with adjustments for household size made in accordance with the adjustment factors on which the moderate-income eligibility limits are based.
- (4) "Area median income" means area median income as periodically established by the Department of Housing and Community Development pursuant to Section 50093 of the Health and Safety Code. The developer shall provide sufficient legal commitments to ensure continued availability of units for very low or low-income households in accordance with the provisions of this subdivision for 30 years.
- (5) Notwithstanding any other law, until January 1, 2025, "deemed complete" means that the applicant has submitted a preliminary application pursuant to Section 65941.1.
- (5) (6) "Disapprove the housing development project" includes any instance in which a local agency does either of the following:
- (A) Votes on a proposed housing development project application and the application is disapproved, including any required land use approvals or entitlements necessary for the issuance of a building permit.
- (B) Fails to comply with the time periods specified in subdivision (a) of Section 65950. An extension of time pursuant to Article 5 (commencing with Section 65950) shall be deemed to be an extension of time pursuant to this paragraph.

- (7) "Lower density" includes any conditions that have the same effect or impact on the ability of the project to provide housing.
- (8) Until January 1, 2025, "objective" means involving no personal or subjective judgment by a public official and being uniformly verifiable by reference to an external and uniform benchmark or criterion available and knowable by both the development applicant or proponent and the public official.
- (9) Notwithstanding any other law, until January 1, 2025, "determined to be complete" means that the applicant has submitted a complete application pursuant to Section 65943.
- (i) If any city, county, or city and county denies approval or imposes conditions, including design changes, lower density, or a reduction of the percentage of a lot that may be occupied by a building or structure under the applicable planning and zoning in force at the time *housing development project's* the application is deemed complete pursuant to Section 65943, complete, that have a substantial adverse effect on the viability or affordability of a housing development for very low, low-, or moderate-income households, and the denial of the development or the imposition of conditions on the development is the subject of a court action which challenges the denial or the imposition of conditions, then the burden of proof shall be on the local legislative body to show that its decision is consistent with the findings as described in subdivision (d) (d), and that the findings are supported by a preponderance of the evidence in the record. For purposes of this section, "lower density" includes any conditions that have the same effect or impact on the ability of the project to provide housing. record, and with the requirements of subdivision (o).
- (j) (1) When a proposed housing development project complies with applicable, objective general plan, zoning, and subdivision standards and criteria, including design review standards, in effect at the time that the housing development project's application is determined to be application was deemed complete, but the local agency proposes to disapprove the project or to impose a condition that the project be developed at a lower density, the local agency shall base its decision regarding the proposed housing development project upon written findings supported by a preponderance of the evidence on the record that both of the following conditions exist:
- (A) The housing development project would have a specific, adverse impact upon the public health or safety unless the project is disapproved or approved upon the condition that the project be developed at a lower density. As used in this paragraph, a "specific, adverse impact" means a significant, quantifiable, direct, and unavoidable impact, based on objective, identified written public health or safety standards, policies, or conditions as they existed on the date the application was deemed complete.
- (B) There is no feasible method to satisfactorily mitigate or avoid the adverse impact identified pursuant to paragraph (1), other than the disapproval of the housing development project or the approval of the project upon the condition that it be developed at a lower density.
- (2) (A) If the local agency considers a proposed housing development project to be inconsistent, not in compliance, or not in conformity with an applicable plan, program, policy, ordinance, standard, requirement, or other similar provision as specified in this subdivision, it shall provide the applicant with written documentation identifying the provision or provisions, and an explanation of the reason or reasons it considers the housing development to be inconsistent, not in compliance, or not in conformity as follows:
- (i) Within 30 days of the date that the application for the housing development project is determined to be complete, if the housing development project contains 150 or fewer housing units.

- (ii) Within 60 days of the date that the application for the housing development project is determined to be complete, if the housing development project contains more than 150 units.
- (B) If the local agency fails to provide the required documentation pursuant to subparagraph (A), the housing development project shall be deemed consistent, compliant, and in conformity with the applicable plan, program, policy, ordinance, standard, requirement, or other similar provision.
- (3) For purposes of this section, the receipt of a density bonus pursuant to Section 65915 shall not constitute a valid basis on which to find a proposed housing development project is inconsistent, not in compliance, or not in conformity, with an applicable plan, program, policy, ordinance, standard, requirement, or other similar provision specified in this subdivision.
- (4) For purposes of this section, a proposed housing development project is not inconsistent with the applicable zoning standards and criteria, and shall not require a rezoning, if the housing development project is consistent with the objective general plan standards and criteria but the zoning for the project site is inconsistent with the general plan. If the local agency has complied with paragraph (2), the local agency may require the proposed housing development project to comply with the objective standards and criteria of the zoning which is consistent with the general plan, however, the standards and criteria shall be applied to facilitate and accommodate development at the density allowed on the site by the general plan and proposed by the proposed housing development project.
- 5) (k) For (1) (A) (i) purposes of this section, "lower density" includes any conditions that have the same effect or impact on the ability of the project to provide housing. The applicant, a person who would be eligible to apply for residency in the housing development project or emergency shelter, or a housing organization may bring an action to enforce this section. If, in any action brought to enforce this section, a court finds that any of the following are met, the court shall issue an order pursuant to clause (ii):
- (I) The local agency, in violation of subdivision (d), disapproved a housing development project or conditioned its approval in a manner rendering it infeasible for the development of an emergency shelter, or housing for very low, low-, or moderate-income households, including farmworker housing, without making the findings required by this section or without making findings supported by a preponderance of the evidence.
- (II) The local agency, in violation of subdivision (j), disapproved a housing development project complying with applicable, objective general plan and zoning standards and criteria, or imposed a condition that the project be developed at a lower density, without making the findings required by this section or without making findings supported by a preponderance of the evidence.
- (III) (ia) Subject to sub-subclause (ib), the local agency, in violation of subdivision (o), required or attempted to require a housing development project to comply with an ordinance, policy, or standard not adopted and in effect when a preliminary application was submitted.
 (ib) This subclause shall become inoperative on January 1, 2025.
- (k) (ii) (1) If (A) The applicant, a person who would be eligible to apply for residency in the development or emergency shelter, or a housing organization may bring an action to enforce this section. If, in any action brought to enforce this section, a the court finds that either (i) the local agency, in violation of subdivision (d), disapproved a housing development project or conditioned its approval in a manner rendering it infeasible for the development of an emergency shelter, or housing for very low, low-, or moderate-income households, including farmworker housing, without making the findings required by this section or without making findings supported by a preponderance of the evidence, or (ii) the local agency, in violation of subdivision (j), disapproved a housing development project complying with applicable, objective general plan and zoning

standards and criteria, or imposed a condition that the project be developed at a lower density, without making the findings required by this section or without making findings supported by a preponderance of the evidence, the one of the conditions in clause(i) is met, the court shall issue an order or judgment compelling compliance with this section within 60 days, including, but not limited to, an order that the local agency take action on the housing development project or emergency shelter. The court may issue an order or judgment directing the local agency to approve the housing development project or emergency shelter if the court finds that the local agency acted in bad faith when it disapproved or conditionally approved the housing development or emergency shelter in violation of this section. The court shall retain jurisdiction to ensure that its order or judgment is carried out and shall award reasonable attorney's fees and costs of suit to the plaintiff or petitioner, except under extraordinary circumstances in which the court finds that awarding fees would not further the purposes of this section. For purposes of this section, "lower density" includes conditions that have the same effect or impact on the ability of the project to provide housing.

- (B) (i) Upon a determination that the local agency has failed to comply with the order or judgment compelling compliance with this section within 60 days issued pursuant to subparagraph (A), the court shall impose fines on a local agency that has violated this section and require the local agency to deposit any fine levied pursuant to this subdivision into a local housing trust fund. The local agency may elect to instead deposit the fine into the Building Homes and Jobs Fund, if Senate Bill 2 of the 2017–18 Regular Session is enacted, or otherwise in the Housing Rehabilitation Loan Fund. The fine shall be in a minimum amount of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) per housing unit in the housing development project on the date the application was deemed complete pursuant to Section 65943. In determining the amount of fine to impose, the court shall consider the local agency's progress in attaining its target allocation of the regional housing need pursuant to Section 65584 and any prior violations of this section. Fines shall not be paid out of funds already dedicated to affordable housing, including, but not limited to, Low and Moderate Income Housing Asset Funds, funds dedicated to housing for very low, low-, and moderate-income households, and federal HOME Investment Partnerships Program and Community Development Block Grant Program funds. The local agency shall commit and expend the money in the local housing trust fund within five years for the sole purpose of financing newly constructed housing units affordable to extremely low, very low, or low-income households. After five years, if the funds have not been expended, the money shall revert to the state and be deposited in the Building Homes and Jobs Fund, if Senate Bill 2 of the 2017–18 Regular Session is enacted, or otherwise in the Housing Rehabilitation Loan Fund, for the sole purpose of financing newly constructed housing units affordable to extremely low, very low, or low-income households.
- (ii) If any money derived from a fine imposed pursuant to this subparagraph is deposited in the Housing Rehabilitation Loan Fund, then, notwithstanding Section 50661 of the Health and Safety Code, that money shall be available only upon appropriation by the Legislature.
- (C) If the court determines that its order or judgment has not been carried out within 60 days, the court may issue further orders as provided by law to ensure that the purposes and policies of this section are fulfilled, including, but not limited to, an order to vacate the decision of the local agency and to approve the housing development project, in which case the application for the housing development project, as proposed by the applicant at the time the local agency took the initial action determined to be in violation of this section, along with any standard conditions determined by the court to be generally imposed by the local agency on similar projects, shall be deemed to be approved unless the applicant consents to a different decision or action by the local agency.
- (2) For purposes of this subdivision, "housing organization" means a trade or industry group whose local members are primarily engaged in the construction or management of housing units or a

nonprofit organization whose mission includes providing or advocating for increased access to housing for low-income households and have filed written or oral comments with the local agency prior to action on the housing development project. A housing organization may only file an action pursuant to this section to challenge the disapproval of a housing development by a local agency. A housing organization shall be entitled to reasonable attorney's fees and costs if it is the prevailing party in an action to enforce this section.

- (I) If the court finds that the local agency (1) acted in bad faith when it disapproved or conditionally approved the housing development or emergency shelter in violation of this section and (2) failed to carry out the court's order or judgment within 60 days as described in subdivision (k), the court, in addition to any other remedies provided by this section, shall multiply the fine determined pursuant to subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (k) by a factor of five. For purposes of this section, "bad faith" includes, but is not limited to, an action that is frivolous or otherwise entirely without merit.
- (m) Any action brought to enforce the provisions of this section shall be brought pursuant to Section 1094.5 of the Code of Civil Procedure, and the local agency shall prepare and certify the record of proceedings in accordance with subdivision (c) of Section 1094.6 of the Code of Civil Procedure no later than 30 days after the petition is served, provided that the cost of preparation of the record shall be borne by the local agency, unless the petitioner elects to prepare the record as provided in subdivision (n) of this section. A petition to enforce the provisions of this section shall be filed and served no later than 90 days from the later of (1) the effective date of a decision of the local agency imposing conditions on, disapproving, or any other final action on a housing development project or (2) the expiration of the time periods specified in subparagraph (B) of paragraph (5) of subdivision (h). Upon entry of the trial court's order, a party may, in order to obtain appellate review of the order, file a petition within 20 days after service upon it of a written notice of the entry of the order, or within such further time not exceeding an additional 20 days as the trial court may for good cause allow, or may appeal the judgment or order of the trial court under Section 904.1 of the Code of Civil Procedure. If the local agency appeals the judgment of the trial court, the local agency shall post a bond, in an amount to be determined by the court, to the benefit of the plaintiff if the plaintiff is the project applicant.
- (n) In any action, the record of the proceedings before the local agency shall be filed as expeditiously as possible and, notwithstanding Section 1094.6 of the Code of Civil Procedure or subdivision (m) of this section, all or part of the record may be prepared (1) by the petitioner with the petition or petitioner's points and authorities, (2) by the respondent with respondent's points and authorities, (3) after payment of costs by the petitioner, or (4) as otherwise directed by the court. If the expense of preparing the record has been borne by the petitioner and the petitioner is the prevailing party, the expense shall be taxable as costs.
- (o) (1) Subject to paragraphs (2), (6), and (7), and subdivision (d) of Section 65941.1, a housing development project shall be subject only to the ordinances, policies, and standards adopted and in effect when a preliminary application including all of the information required by subdivision (a) of Section 65941.1 was submitted.
- (2) Paragraph (1) shall not prohibit a housing development project from being subject to ordinances, policies, and standards adopted after the preliminary application was submitted pursuant to Section 65941.1 in the following circumstances:
- (A) In the case of a fee, charge, or other monetary exaction, to an increase resulting from an automatic annual adjustment based on an independently published cost index that is referenced in the ordinance or resolution establishing the fee or other monetary exaction.

- (B) A preponderance of the evidence in the record establishes that subjecting the housing development project to an ordinance, policy, or standard beyond those in effect when a preliminary application was submitted is necessary to mitigate or avoid a specific, adverse impact upon the public health or safety, as defined in subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (j), and there is no feasible alternative method to satisfactorily mitigate or avoid the adverse impact.
- (C) Subjecting the housing development project to an ordinance, policy, standard, or any other measure, beyond those in effect when a preliminary application was submitted is necessary to avoid or substantially lessen an impact of the project under the California Environmental Quality Act (Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code).
- (D) The housing development project has not commenced construction within two and one-half years following the date that the project received final approval. For purposes of this subparagraph, "final approval" means that the housing development project has received all necessary approvals to be eligible to apply for, and obtain, a building permit or permits and either of the following is met:
- (i) The expiration of all applicable appeal periods, petition periods, reconsideration periods, or statute of limitations for challenging that final approval without an appeal, petition, request for reconsideration, or legal challenge having been filed.
- (ii) If a challenge is filed, that challenge is fully resolved or settled in favor of the housing development project.
- (E) The housing development project is revised following submittal of a preliminary application pursuant to Section 65941.1 such that the number of residential units or square footage of construction changes by 20 percent or more, exclusive of any increase resulting from the receipt of a density bonus, incentive, concession, waiver, or similar provision. For purposes of this subdivision, "square footage of construction" means the building area, as defined by the California Building Standards Code (Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations).
- (3) This subdivision does not prevent a local agency from subjecting the additional units or square footage of construction that result from project revisions occurring after a preliminary application is submitted pursuant to Section 65941.1 to the ordinances, policies, and standards adopted and in effect when the preliminary application was submitted.
- (4) For purposes of this subdivision, "ordinances, policies, and standards" includes general plan, community plan, specific plan, zoning, design review standards and criteria, subdivision standards and criteria, and any other rules, regulations, requirements, and policies of a local agency, as defined in Section 66000, including those relating to development impact fees, capacity or connection fees or charges, permit or processing fees, and other exactions.
- (5) This subdivision shall not be construed in a manner that would lessen the restrictions imposed on a local agency, or lessen the protections afforded to a housing development project, that are established by any other law, including any other part of this section.
- (6) This subdivision shall not restrict the authority of a public agency or local agency to require mitigation measures to lessen the impacts of a housing development project under the California Environmental Quality Act (Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code).
- (7) With respect to completed residential units for which the project approval process is complete and a certificate of occupancy has been issued, nothing in this subdivision shall limit the application of later enacted ordinances, policies, and standards that regulate the use and

occupancy of those residential units, such as ordinances relating to rental housing inspection, rent stabilization, restrictions on short-term renting, and business licensing requirements for owners of rental housing.

- (8) This subdivision shall become inoperative on January 1, 2025.
- (o) (p) This section shall be known, and may be cited, as the Housing Accountability Act.

SEC. 3.2.

Section 65589.5 of the Government Code is amended to read:

65589.5.

- (a) (1) The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:
- (A) The lack of housing, including emergency shelters, is a critical problem that threatens the economic, environmental, and social quality of life in California.
- (B) California housing has become the most expensive in the nation. The excessive cost of the state's housing supply is partially caused by activities and policies of many local governments that limit the approval of housing, increase the cost of land for housing, and require that high fees and exactions be paid by producers of housing.
- (C) Among the consequences of those actions are discrimination against low-income and minority households, lack of housing to support employment growth, imbalance in jobs and housing, reduced mobility, urban sprawl, excessive commuting, and air quality deterioration.
- (D) Many local governments do not give adequate attention to the economic, environmental, and social costs of decisions that result in disapproval of housing development projects, reduction in density of housing projects, and excessive standards for housing development projects.
- (2) In enacting the amendments made to this section by the act adding this paragraph, the Legislature further finds and declares the following:
- (A) California has a housing supply and affordability crisis of historic proportions. The consequences of failing to effectively and aggressively confront this crisis are hurting millions of Californians, robbing future generations of the chance to call California home, stifling economic opportunities for workers and businesses, worsening poverty and homelessness, and undermining the state's environmental and climate objectives.
- (B) While the causes of this crisis are multiple and complex, the absence of meaningful and effective policy reforms to significantly enhance the approval and supply of housing affordable to Californians of all income levels is a key factor.
- (C) The crisis has grown so acute in California that supply, demand, and affordability fundamentals are characterized in the negative: underserved demands, constrained supply, and protracted unaffordability.
- (D) According to reports and data, California has accumulated an unmet housing backlog of nearly 2,000,000 units and must provide for at least 180,000 new units annually to keep pace with growth through 2025.
- (E) California's overall homeownership rate is at its lowest level since the 1940s. The state ranks 49th out of the 50 states in homeownership rates as well as in the supply of housing per capita. Only one-half of California's households are able to afford the cost of housing in their local regions.

- (F) Lack of supply and rising costs are compounding inequality and limiting advancement opportunities for many Californians.
- (G) The majority of California renters, more than 3,000,000 households, pay more than 30 percent of their income toward rent and nearly one-third, more than 1,500,000 households, pay more than 50 percent of their income toward rent.
- (H) When Californians have access to safe and affordable housing, they have more money for food and health care; they are less likely to become homeless and in need of government-subsidized services; their children do better in school; and businesses have an easier time recruiting and retaining employees.
- (I) An additional consequence of the state's cumulative housing shortage is a significant increase in greenhouse gas emissions caused by the displacement and redirection of populations to states with greater housing opportunities, particularly working- and middle-class households. California's cumulative housing shortfall therefore has not only national but international environmental consequences.
- (J) California's housing picture has reached a crisis of historic proportions despite the fact that, for decades, the Legislature has enacted numerous statutes intended to significantly increase the approval, development, and affordability of housing for all income levels, including this section.
- (K) The Legislature's intent in enacting this section in 1982 and in expanding its provisions since then was to significantly increase the approval and construction of new housing for all economic segments of California's communities by meaningfully and effectively curbing the capability of local governments to deny, reduce the density for, or render infeasible housing development projects and emergency shelters. That intent has not been fulfilled.
- (L) It is the policy of the state that this section should be interpreted and implemented in a manner to afford the fullest possible weight to the interest of, and the approval and provision of, housing.
- (3) It is the intent of the Legislature that the conditions that would have a specific, adverse impact upon the public health and safety, as described in paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) and paragraph (1) of subdivision (j), arise infrequently.
- (b) It is the policy of the state that a local government not reject or make infeasible housing development projects, including emergency shelters, that contribute to meeting the need determined pursuant to this article without a thorough analysis of the economic, social, and environmental effects of the action and without complying with subdivision (d).
- (c) The Legislature also recognizes that premature and unnecessary development of agricultural lands for urban uses continues to have adverse effects on the availability of those lands for food and fiber production and on the economy of the state. Furthermore, it is the policy of the state that development should be guided away from prime agricultural lands; therefore, in implementing this section, local jurisdictions should encourage, to the maximum extent practicable, in filling existing urban areas.
- (d) A local agency shall not disapprove a housing development project, including farmworker housing as defined in subdivision (h) of Section 50199.7 of the Health and Safety Code, for very low, low-, or moderate-income households, or an emergency shelter, or condition approval in a manner that renders the housing development project infeasible for development for the use of very low, low-, or moderate-income households, or an emergency shelter, including through the use of design review standards, unless it makes written findings, based upon a preponderance of the evidence in the record, as to one of the following:

- (1) The jurisdiction has adopted a housing element pursuant to this article that has been revised in accordance with Section 65588, is in substantial compliance with this article, and the jurisdiction has met or exceeded its share of the regional housing need allocation pursuant to Section 65584 for the planning period for the income category proposed for the housing development project, provided that any disapproval or conditional approval shall not be based on any of the reasons prohibited by Section 65008. If the housing development project includes a mix of income categories, and the jurisdiction has not met or exceeded its share of the regional housing need for one or more of those categories, then this paragraph shall not be used to disapprove or conditionally approve the housing development project. The share of the regional housing need met by the jurisdiction shall be calculated consistently with the forms and definitions that may be adopted by the Department of Housing and Community Development pursuant to Section 65400. In the case of an emergency shelter, the jurisdiction shall have met or exceeded the need for emergency shelter, as identified pursuant to paragraph (7) of subdivision (a) of Section 65583. Any disapproval or conditional approval pursuant to this paragraph shall be in accordance with applicable law, rule, or standards.
- (2) The housing development project or emergency shelter as proposed would have a specific, adverse impact upon the public health or safety, and there is no feasible method to satisfactorily mitigate or avoid the specific specific, adverse impact without rendering the development unaffordable to low- and moderate-income households or rendering the development of the emergency shelter financially infeasible. As used in this paragraph, a "specific, adverse impact" means a significant, quantifiable, direct, and unavoidable impact, based on objective, identified written public health or safety standards, policies, or conditions as they existed on the date the application was deemed complete. Inconsistency with the zoning ordinance or general plan land use designation or determined to be complete. The following shall not constitute a specific, adverse impact upon the public health or safety.
- (A) Inconsistency with the zoning ordinance or general plan land use designation.
- (B) The eligibility to claim a welfare exemption under subdivision (g) of Section 214 of the Revenue and Taxation Code.
- (3) The denial of the housing development project or imposition of conditions is required in order to comply with specific state or federal law, and there is no feasible method to comply without rendering the development unaffordable to low- and moderate-income households or rendering the development of the emergency shelter financially infeasible.
- (4) The housing development project or emergency shelter is proposed on land zoned for agriculture or resource preservation that is surrounded on at least two sides by land being used for agricultural or resource preservation purposes, or which does not have adequate water or wastewater facilities to serve the project.
- (5) The housing development project or emergency shelter is inconsistent with both the jurisdiction's zoning ordinance and general plan land use designation as specified in any element of the general plan as it existed on the date the application was deemed *or determined to be* complete, and the jurisdiction has adopted a revised housing element in accordance with Section 65588 that is in substantial compliance with this article. For purposes of this section, a change to the zoning ordinance or general plan land use designation subsequent to the date the application was deemed *or determined to be* complete shall not constitute a valid basis to disapprove or condition approval of the housing development project or emergency shelter.
- (A) This paragraph cannot be utilized to disapprove or conditionally approve a housing development project if the housing development project is proposed on a site that is identified as

suitable or available for very low, low-, or moderate-income households in the jurisdiction's housing element, and consistent with the density specified in the housing element, even though it is inconsistent with both the jurisdiction's zoning ordinance and general plan land use designation.

- (B) If the local agency has failed to identify in the inventory of land in its housing element sites that can be developed for housing within the planning period and are sufficient to provide for the jurisdiction's share of the regional housing need for all income levels pursuant to Section 65584, then this paragraph shall not be utilized to disapprove or conditionally approve a housing development project proposed for a site designated in any element of the general plan for residential uses or designated in any element of the general plan for commercial uses if residential uses are permitted or conditionally permitted within commercial designations. In any action in court, the burden of proof shall be on the local agency to show that its housing element does identify adequate sites with appropriate zoning and development standards and with services and facilities to accommodate the local agency's share of the regional housing need for the very low, low-, and moderate-income categories.
- (C) If the local agency has failed to identify a zone or zones where emergency shelters are allowed as a permitted use without a conditional use or other discretionary permit, has failed to demonstrate that the identified zone or zones include sufficient capacity to accommodate the need for emergency shelter identified in paragraph (7) of subdivision (a) of Section 65583, or has failed to demonstrate that the identified zone or zones can accommodate at least one emergency shelter, as required by paragraph (4) of subdivision (a) of Section 65583, then this paragraph shall not be utilized to disapprove or conditionally approve an emergency shelter proposed for a site designated in any element of the general plan for industrial, commercial, or multifamily residential uses. In any action in court, the burden of proof shall be on the local agency to show that its housing element does satisfy the requirements of paragraph (4) of subdivision (a) of Section 65583.
- (e) Nothing in this section shall be construed to relieve the local agency from complying with the congestion management program required by Chapter 2.6 (commencing with Section 65088) of Division 1 of Title 7 or the California Coastal Act of 1976 (Division 20 (commencing with Section 30000) of the Public Resources Code). Neither shall anything—Nothing in this section shall be construed to relieve the local agency from making one or more of the findings required pursuant to Section 21081 of the Public Resources Code or otherwise complying with the California Environmental Quality Act (Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code).
- (f) (1) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit a local agency from requiring the housing development project to comply with objective, quantifiable, written development standards, conditions, and policies appropriate to, and consistent with, meeting the jurisdiction's share of the regional housing need pursuant to Section 65584. However, the development standards, conditions, and policies shall be applied to facilitate and accommodate development at the density permitted on the site and proposed by the development.
- (2) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit a local agency from requiring an emergency shelter project to comply with objective, quantifiable, written development standards, conditions, and policies that are consistent with paragraph (4) of subdivision (a) of Section 65583 and appropriate to, and consistent with, meeting the jurisdiction's need for emergency shelter, as identified pursuant to paragraph (7) of subdivision (a) of Section 65583. However, the development standards, conditions, and policies shall be applied by the local agency to facilitate and accommodate the development of the emergency shelter project.

- (3) This section does not prohibit a local agency from imposing fees and other exactions otherwise authorized by law that are essential to provide necessary public services and facilities to the housing development project or emergency shelter.
- (4) For purposes of this section, a housing development project or emergency shelter shall be deemed consistent, compliant, and in conformity with an applicable plan, program, policy, ordinance, standard, requirement, or other similar provision if there is substantial evidence that would allow a reasonable person to conclude that the housing development project or emergency shelter is consistent, compliant, or in conformity.
- (g) This section shall be applicable to charter cities because the Legislature finds that the lack of housing, including emergency shelter, is a critical statewide problem.
- (h) The following definitions apply for the purposes of this section:
- (1) "Feasible" means capable of being accomplished in a successful manner within a reasonable period of time, taking into account economic, environmental, social, and technological factors.
- (2) "Housing development project" means a use consisting of any of the following:
- (A) Residential units only.
- (B) Mixed-use developments consisting of residential and nonresidential uses with at least two-thirds of the square footage designated for residential use.
- (C) Transitional housing or supportive housing.
- (3) "Housing for very low, low-, or moderate-income households" means that either (A) at least 20 percent of the total units shall be sold or rented to lower income households, as defined in Section 50079.5 of the Health and Safety Code, or (B) 100 percent of the units shall be sold or rented to persons and families of moderate income as defined in Section 50093 of the Health and Safety Code, or persons and families of middle income, as defined in Section 65008 of this code. Housing units targeted for lower income households shall be made available at a monthly housing cost that does not exceed 30 percent of 60 percent of area median income with adjustments for household size made in accordance with the adjustment factors on which the lower income eligibility limits are based. Housing units targeted for persons and families of moderate income shall be made available at a monthly housing cost that does not exceed 30 percent of 100 percent of area median income with adjustments for household size made in accordance with the adjustment factors on which the moderate-income eligibility limits are based.
- (4) "Area median income" means area median income as periodically established by the Department of Housing and Community Development pursuant to Section 50093 of the Health and Safety Code. The developer shall provide sufficient legal commitments to ensure continued availability of units for very low or low-income households in accordance with the provisions of this subdivision for 30 years.
- (5) "Disapprove the housing development project" includes any instance in which a local agency does either of the following:
- (A) Votes on a proposed housing development project application and the application is disapproved, including any required land use approvals or entitlements necessary for the issuance of a building permit.
- (B) Fails to comply with the time periods specified in subdivision (a) of Section 65950. An extension of time pursuant to Article 5 (commencing with Section 65950) shall be deemed to be an extension of time pursuant to this paragraph.

- (i) If any city, county, or city and county denies approval or imposes conditions, including design changes, lower density, or a reduction of the percentage of a lot that may be occupied by a building or structure under the applicable planning and zoning in force at the time the application is deemed complete pursuant to Section 65943, that have a substantial adverse effect on the viability or affordability of a housing development for very low, low-, or moderate-income households, and the denial of the development or the imposition of conditions on the development is the subject of a court action which challenges the denial or the imposition of conditions, then the burden of proof shall be on the local legislative body to show that its decision is consistent with the findings as described in subdivision (d) and that the findings are supported by a preponderance of the evidence in the record. For purposes of this section, "lower density" includes any conditions that have the same effect or impact on the ability of the project to provide housing.
- (j) (1) When a proposed housing development project complies with applicable, objective general plan, zoning, and subdivision standards and criteria, including design review standards, in effect at the time that the housing development project's application is determined to be complete, but the local agency proposes to disapprove the project or to impose a condition that the project be developed at a lower density, the local agency shall base its decision regarding the proposed housing development project upon written findings supported by a preponderance of the evidence on the record that both of the following conditions exist:
- (A) The housing development project would have a specific, adverse impact upon the public health or safety unless the project is disapproved or approved upon the condition that the project be developed at a lower density. As used in this paragraph, a "specific, adverse impact" means a significant, quantifiable, direct, and unavoidable impact, based on objective, identified written public health or safety standards, policies, or conditions as they existed on the date the application was deemed complete.
- (B) There is no feasible method to satisfactorily mitigate or avoid the adverse impact identified pursuant to paragraph (1), other than the disapproval of the housing development project or the approval of the project upon the condition that it be developed at a lower density.
- (2) (A) If the local agency considers a proposed housing development project to be inconsistent, not in compliance, or not in conformity with an applicable plan, program, policy, ordinance, standard, requirement, or other similar provision as specified in this subdivision, it shall provide the applicant with written documentation identifying the provision or provisions, and an explanation of the reason or reasons it considers the housing development to be inconsistent, not in compliance, or not in conformity as follows:
- (i) Within 30 days of the date that the application for the housing development project is determined to be complete, if the housing development project contains 150 or fewer housing units.
- (ii) Within 60 days of the date that the application for the housing development project is determined to be complete, if the housing development project contains more than 150 units.
- (B) If the local agency fails to provide the required documentation pursuant to subparagraph (A), the housing development project shall be deemed consistent, compliant, and in conformity with the applicable plan, program, policy, ordinance, standard, requirement, or other similar provision.
- (3) For purposes of this section, the receipt of a density bonus pursuant to Section 65915 shall not constitute a valid basis on which to find a proposed housing development project is inconsistent, not in compliance, or not in conformity, with an applicable plan, program, policy, ordinance, standard, requirement, or other similar provision specified in this subdivision.

- (4) For purposes of this section, a proposed housing development project is not inconsistent with the applicable zoning standards and criteria, and shall not require a rezoning, if the housing development project is consistent with the objective general plan standards and criteria but the zoning for the project site is inconsistent with the general plan. If the local agency has complied with paragraph (2), the local agency may require the proposed housing development project to comply with the objective standards and criteria of the zoning which is consistent with the general plan, however, the standards and criteria shall be applied to facilitate and accommodate development at the density allowed on the site by the general plan and proposed by the proposed housing development project.
- (5) For purposes of this section, "lower density" includes any conditions that have the same effect or impact on the ability of the project to provide housing.
- (k) (1) (A) The applicant, a person who would be eligible to apply for residency in the development or emergency shelter, or a housing organization may bring an action to enforce this section. If, in any action brought to enforce this section, a court finds that either (i) the local agency, in violation of subdivision (d), disapproved a housing development project or conditioned its approval in a manner rendering it infeasible for the development of an emergency shelter, or housing for very low, low-, or moderate-income households, including farmworker housing, without making the findings required by this section or without making findings supported by a preponderance of the evidence, or (ii) the local agency, in violation of subdivision (j), disapproved a housing development project complying with applicable, objective general plan and zoning standards and criteria, or imposed a condition that the project be developed at a lower density, without making the findings required by this section or without making findings supported by a preponderance of the evidence, the court shall issue an order or judgment compelling compliance with this section within 60 days, including, but not limited to, an order that the local agency take action on the housing development project or emergency shelter. The court may issue an order or judgment directing the local agency to approve the housing development project or emergency shelter if the court finds that the local agency acted in bad faith when it disapproved or conditionally approved the housing development or emergency shelter in violation of this section. The court shall retain jurisdiction to ensure that its order or judgment is carried out and shall award reasonable attorney's fees and costs of suit to the plaintiff or petitioner, except under extraordinary circumstances in which the court finds that awarding fees would not further the purposes of this section. For purposes of this section, "lower density" includes conditions that have the same effect or impact on the ability of the project to provide housing.
- (B) (i) Upon a determination that the local agency has failed to comply with the order or judgment compelling compliance with this section within 60 days issued pursuant to subparagraph (A), the court shall impose fines on a local agency that has violated this section and require the local agency to deposit any fine levied pursuant to this subdivision into a local housing trust fund. The local agency may elect to instead deposit the fine into the Building Homes and Jobs Fund, if Senate Bill 2 of the 2017–18 Regular Session is enacted, or otherwise in the Housing Rehabilitation Loan Fund. The fine shall be in a minimum amount of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) per housing unit in the housing development project on the date the application was deemed complete pursuant to Section 65943. In determining the amount of fine to impose, the court shall consider the local agency's progress in attaining its target allocation of the regional housing need pursuant to Section 65584 and any prior violations of this section. Fines shall not be paid out of funds already dedicated to affordable housing, including, but not limited to, Low and Moderate Income Housing Asset Funds, funds dedicated to housing for very low, low-, and moderate-income households, and federal HOME Investment Partnerships Program and Community Development Block Grant Program funds. The local agency shall commit and expend the money in the local housing trust fund within five years for the sole purpose of financing newly

constructed housing units affordable to extremely low, very low, or low-income households. After five years, if the funds have not been expended, the money shall revert to the state and be deposited in the Building Homes and Jobs Fund, if Senate Bill 2 of the 2017–18 Regular Session is enacted, or otherwise in the Housing Rehabilitation Loan Fund, for the sole purpose of financing newly constructed housing units affordable to extremely low, very low, or low-income households.

- (ii) If any money derived from a fine imposed pursuant to this subparagraph is deposited in the Housing Rehabilitation Loan Fund, then, notwithstanding Section 50661 of the Health and Safety Code, that money shall be available only upon appropriation by the Legislature.
- (C) If the court determines that its order or judgment has not been carried out within 60 days, the court may issue further orders as provided by law to ensure that the purposes and policies of this section are fulfilled, including, but not limited to, an order to vacate the decision of the local agency and to approve the housing development project, in which case the application for the housing development project, as proposed by the applicant at the time the local agency took the initial action determined to be in violation of this section, along with any standard conditions determined by the court to be generally imposed by the local agency on similar projects, shall be deemed to be approved unless the applicant consents to a different decision or action by the local agency.
- (2) For purposes of this subdivision, "housing organization" means a trade or industry group whose local members are primarily engaged in the construction or management of housing units or a nonprofit organization whose mission includes providing or advocating for increased access to housing for low-income households and have filed written or oral comments with the local agency prior to action on the housing development project. A housing organization may only file an action pursuant to this section to challenge the disapproval of a housing development by a local agency. A housing organization shall be entitled to reasonable attorney's fees and costs if it is the prevailing party in an action to enforce this section.
- (I) If the court finds that the local agency (1) acted in bad faith when it disapproved or conditionally approved the housing development or emergency shelter in violation of this section and (2) failed to carry out the court's order or judgment within 60 days as described in subdivision (k), the court, in addition to any other remedies provided by this section, shall multiply the fine determined pursuant to subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (k) by a factor of five. For purposes of this section, "bad faith" includes, but is not limited to, an action that is frivolous or otherwise entirely without merit.
- (m) Any action brought to enforce the provisions of this section shall be brought pursuant to Section 1094.5 of the Code of Civil Procedure, and the local agency shall prepare and certify the record of proceedings in accordance with subdivision (c) of Section 1094.6 of the Code of Civil Procedure no later than 30 days after the petition is served, provided that the cost of preparation of the record shall be borne by the local agency, unless the petitioner elects to prepare the record as provided in subdivision (n) of this section. A petition to enforce the provisions of this section shall be filed and served no later than 90 days from the later of (1) the effective date of a decision of the local agency imposing conditions on, disapproving, or any other final action on a housing development project or (2) the expiration of the time periods specified in subparagraph (B) of paragraph (5) of subdivision (h). Upon entry of the trial court's order, a party may, in order to obtain appellate review of the order, file a petition within 20 days after service upon it of a written notice of the entry of the order, or within such further time not exceeding an additional 20 days as the trial court may for good cause allow, or may appeal the judgment or order of the trial court under Section 904.1 of the Code of Civil Procedure. If the local agency appeals the judgment of the trial court, the local agency shall post a bond, in an amount to be determined by the court, to the benefit of the plaintiff if the plaintiff is the project applicant.

- (n) In any action, the record of the proceedings before the local agency shall be filed as expeditiously as possible and, notwithstanding Section 1094.6 of the Code of Civil Procedure or subdivision (m) of this section, all or part of the record may be prepared (1) by the petitioner with the petition or petitioner's points and authorities, (2) by the respondent with respondent's points and authorities, (3) after payment of costs by the petitioner, or (4) as otherwise directed by the court. If the expense of preparing the record has been borne by the petitioner and the petitioner is the prevailing party, the expense shall be taxable as costs.
- (o) This section shall be known, and may be cited, as the Housing Accountability Act.

SEC. 3.1.

Section 65589.5 of the Government Code is amended to read:

65589.5.

- (a) (1) The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:
- (A) The lack of housing, including emergency shelters, is a critical problem that threatens the economic, environmental, and social quality of life in California.
- (B) California housing has become the most expensive in the nation. The excessive cost of the state's housing supply is partially caused by activities and policies of many local governments that limit the approval of housing, increase the cost of land for housing, and require that high fees and exactions be paid by producers of housing.
- (C) Among the consequences of those actions are discrimination against low-income and minority households, lack of housing to support employment growth, imbalance in jobs and housing, reduced mobility, urban sprawl, excessive commuting, and air quality deterioration.
- (D) Many local governments do not give adequate attention to the economic, environmental, and social costs of decisions that result in disapproval of housing development projects, reduction in density of housing projects, and excessive standards for housing development projects.
- (2) In enacting the amendments made to this section by the act adding this paragraph, the Legislature further finds and declares the following:
- A) California has a housing supply and affordability crisis of historic proportions. The consequences of failing to effectively and aggressively confront this crisis are hurting millions of Californians, robbing future generations of the chance to call California home, stifling economic opportunities for workers and businesses, worsening poverty and homelessness, and undermining the state's environmental and climate objectives.
- (B) While the causes of this crisis are multiple and complex, the absence of meaningful and effective policy reforms to significantly enhance the approval and supply of housing affordable to Californians of all income levels is a key factor.
- (C) The crisis has grown so acute in California that supply, demand, and affordability fundamentals are characterized in the negative: underserved demands, constrained supply, and protracted unaffordability.
- (D) According to reports and data, California has accumulated an unmet housing backlog of nearly 2,000,000 units and must provide for at least 180,000 new units annually to keep pace with growth through 2025.

- (E) California's overall homeownership rate is at its lowest level since the 1940s. The state ranks 49th out of the 50 states in homeownership rates as well as in the supply of housing per capita. Only one-half of California's households are able to afford the cost of housing in their local regions.
- (F) Lack of supply and rising costs are compounding inequality and limiting advancement opportunities for many Californians.
- (G) The majority of California renters, more than 3,000,000 households, pay more than 30 percent of their income toward rent and nearly one-third, more than 1,500,000 households, pay more than 50 percent of their income toward rent.
- (H) When Californians have access to safe and affordable housing, they have more money for food and health care; they are less likely to become homeless and in need of government-subsidized services; their children do better in school; and businesses have an easier time recruiting and retaining employees.
- (I) An additional consequence of the state's cumulative housing shortage is a significant increase in greenhouse gas emissions caused by the displacement and redirection of populations to states with greater housing opportunities, particularly working- and middle-class households. California's cumulative housing shortfall therefore has not only national but international environmental consequences.
- (J) California's housing picture has reached a crisis of historic proportions despite the fact that, for decades, the Legislature has enacted numerous statutes intended to significantly increase the approval, development, and affordability of housing for all income levels, including this section.
- (K) The Legislature's intent in enacting this section in 1982 and in expanding its provisions since then was to significantly increase the approval and construction of new housing for all economic segments of California's communities by meaningfully and effectively curbing the capability of local governments to deny, reduce the density for, or render infeasible housing development projects and emergency shelters. That intent has not been fulfilled.
- (L) It is the policy of the state that this section should be interpreted and implemented in a manner to afford the fullest possible weight to the interest of, and the approval and provision of, housing.
- (3) It is the intent of the Legislature that the conditions that would have a specific, adverse impact upon the public health and safety, as described in paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) and paragraph (1) of subdivision (j), arise infrequently.
- (b) It is the policy of the state that a local government not reject or make infeasible housing development projects, including emergency shelters, that contribute to meeting the need determined pursuant to this article without a thorough analysis of the economic, social, and environmental effects of the action and without complying with subdivision (d).
- (c) The Legislature also recognizes that premature and unnecessary development of agricultural lands for urban uses continues to have adverse effects on the availability of those lands for food and fiber production and on the economy of the state. Furthermore, it is the policy of the state that development should be guided away from prime agricultural lands; therefore, in implementing this section, local jurisdictions should encourage, to the maximum extent practicable, in filling existing urban areas.
- (d) A local agency shall not disapprove a housing development project, including farmworker housing as defined in subdivision (h) of Section 50199.7 of the Health and Safety Code, for very low, low-, or moderate-income households, or an emergency shelter, or condition approval in a manner that renders the housing development project infeasible for development for the use of

very low, low-, or moderate-income households, or an emergency shelter, including through the use of design review standards, unless it makes written findings, based upon a preponderance of the evidence in the record, as to one of the following:

- (1) The jurisdiction has adopted a housing element pursuant to this article that has been revised in accordance with Section 65588, is in substantial compliance with this article, and the jurisdiction has met or exceeded its share of the regional housing need allocation pursuant to Section 65584 for the planning period for the income category proposed for the housing development project, provided that any disapproval or conditional approval shall not be based on any of the reasons prohibited by Section 65008. If the housing development project includes a mix of income categories, and the jurisdiction has not met or exceeded its share of the regional housing need for one or more of those categories, then this paragraph shall not be used to disapprove or conditionally approve the housing development project. The share of the regional housing need met by the jurisdiction shall be calculated consistently with the forms and definitions that may be adopted by the Department of Housing and Community Development pursuant to Section 65400. In the case of an emergency shelter, the jurisdiction shall have met or exceeded the need for emergency shelter, as identified pursuant to paragraph (7) of subdivision (a) of Section 65583. Any disapproval or conditional approval pursuant to this paragraph shall be in accordance with applicable law, rule, or standards.
- (2) The housing development project or emergency shelter as proposed would have a specific, adverse impact upon the public health or safety, and there is no feasible method to satisfactorily mitigate or avoid the specific adverse impact without rendering the development unaffordable to low- and moderate-income households or rendering the development of the emergency shelter financially infeasible. As used in this paragraph, a "specific, adverse impact" means a significant, quantifiable, direct, and unavoidable impact, based on objective, identified written public health or safety standards, policies, or conditions as they existed on the date the application was deemed complete. Inconsistency with the zoning ordinance or general plan land use designation. The following shall not constitute a specific, adverse impact upon the public health or safety:
- (A) Inconsistency with the zoning ordinance or general plan land use designation.
- (B) The eligibility to claim a welfare exemption under subdivision (g) of Section 214 of the Revenue and Taxation Code.
- (3) The denial of the housing development project or imposition of conditions is required in order to comply with specific state or federal law, and there is no feasible method to comply without rendering the development unaffordable to low- and moderate-income households or rendering the development of the emergency shelter financially infeasible.
- (4) The housing development project or emergency shelter is proposed on land zoned for agriculture or resource preservation that is surrounded on at least two sides by land being used for agricultural or resource preservation purposes, or which does not have adequate water or wastewater facilities to serve the project.
- (5) The housing development project or emergency shelter is inconsistent with both the jurisdiction's zoning ordinance and general plan land use designation as specified in any element of the general plan as it existed on the date the application was deemed complete, and the jurisdiction has adopted a revised housing element in accordance with Section 65588 that is in substantial compliance with this article. For purposes of this section, a change to the zoning ordinance or general plan land use designation subsequent to the date the application was deemed complete shall not constitute a valid basis to disapprove or condition approval of the housing development project or emergency shelter.

- (A) This paragraph cannot be utilized to disapprove or conditionally approve a housing development project if the housing development project is proposed on a site that is identified as suitable or available for very low, low-, or moderate-income households in the jurisdiction's housing element, and consistent with the density specified in the housing element, even though it is inconsistent with both the jurisdiction's zoning ordinance and general plan land use designation.
- (B) If the local agency has failed to identify in the inventory of land in its housing element sites that can be developed for housing within the planning period and are sufficient to provide for the jurisdiction's share of the regional housing need for all income levels pursuant to Section 65584, then this paragraph shall not be utilized to disapprove or conditionally approve a housing development project proposed for a site designated in any element of the general plan for residential uses or designated in any element of the general plan for commercial uses if residential uses are permitted or conditionally permitted within commercial designations. In any action in court, the burden of proof shall be on the local agency to show that its housing element does identify adequate sites with appropriate zoning and development standards and with services and facilities to accommodate the local agency's share of the regional housing need for the very low, low-, and moderate-income categories.
- (C) If the local agency has failed to identify a zone or zones where emergency shelters are allowed as a permitted use without a conditional use or other discretionary permit, has failed to demonstrate that the identified zone or zones include sufficient capacity to accommodate the need for emergency shelter identified in paragraph (7) of subdivision (a) of Section 65583, or has failed to demonstrate that the identified zone or zones can accommodate at least one emergency shelter, as required by paragraph (4) of subdivision (a) of Section 65583, then this paragraph shall not be utilized to disapprove or conditionally approve an emergency shelter proposed for a site designated in any element of the general plan for industrial, commercial, or multifamily residential uses. In any action in court, the burden of proof shall be on the local agency to show that its housing element does satisfy the requirements of paragraph (4) of subdivision (a) of Section 65583.
- (e) Nothing in this section shall be construed to relieve the local agency from complying with the congestion management program required by Chapter 2.6 (commencing with Section 65088) of Division 1 of Title 7 or the California Coastal Act of 1976 (Division 20 (commencing with Section 30000) of the Public Resources Code). Neither shall anything in this section be construed to relieve the local agency from making one or more of the findings required pursuant to Section 21081 of the Public Resources Code or otherwise complying with the California Environmental Quality Act (Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code).
- (f) (1) Nothing in this section Except as provided in subdivision (o), nothing in shall be construed to prohibit a local agency from requiring the housing development project to comply with objective, quantifiable, written development standards, conditions, and policies appropriate to, and consistent with, meeting the jurisdiction's share of the regional housing need pursuant to Section 65584. However, the development standards, conditions, and policies shall be applied to facilitate and accommodate development at the density permitted on the site and proposed by the development.
- (2) Nothing in this section. Except as provided in subdivision (o), nothing in shall be construed to prohibit a local agency from requiring an emergency shelter project to comply with objective, quantifiable, written development standards, conditions, and policies that are consistent with paragraph (4) of subdivision (a) of Section 65583 and appropriate to, and consistent with, meeting the jurisdiction's need for emergency shelter, as identified pursuant to paragraph (7) of subdivision (a) of Section 65583. However, the development standards, conditions, and policies shall be applied by the local agency to facilitate and accommodate the development of the emergency shelter project.

- (3) This section does not Except as provided in subdivision (o), nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit a local agency from imposing fees and other exactions otherwise authorized by law that are essential to provide necessary public services and facilities to the housing development project or emergency shelter.
- (4) For purposes of this section, a housing development project or emergency shelter shall be deemed consistent, compliant, and in conformity with an applicable plan, program, policy, ordinance, standard, requirement, or other similar provision if there is substantial evidence that would allow a reasonable person to conclude that the housing development project or emergency shelter is consistent, compliant, or in conformity.
- g) This section shall be applicable to charter cities because the Legislature finds that the lack of housing, including emergency shelter, is a critical statewide problem.
- (h) The following definitions apply for the purposes of this section:
- (1) "Feasible" means capable of being accomplished in a successful manner within a reasonable period of time, taking into account economic, environmental, social, and technological factors.
- (2) "Housing development project" means a use consisting of any of the following:
- (A) Residential units only.
- (B) Mixed-use developments consisting of residential and nonresidential uses with at least twothirds of the square footage designated for residential use.
- (C) Transitional housing or supportive housing.
- (3) "Housing for very low, low-, or moderate-income households" means that either (A) at least 20 percent of the total units shall be sold or rented to lower income households, as defined in Section 50079.5 of the Health and Safety Code, or (B) 100 percent of the units shall be sold or rented to persons and families of moderate income as defined in Section 50093 of the Health and Safety Code, or persons and families of middle income, as defined in Section 65008 of this code. Housing units targeted for lower income households shall be made available at a monthly housing cost that does not exceed 30 percent of 60 percent of area median income with adjustments for household size made in accordance with the adjustment factors on which the lower income eligibility limits are based. Housing units targeted for persons and families of moderate income shall be made available at a monthly housing cost that does not exceed 30 percent of 100 percent of area median income with adjustments for household size made in accordance with the adjustment factors on which the moderate-income eligibility limits are based.
- (4) "Area median income" means area median income as periodically established by the Department of Housing and Community Development pursuant to Section 50093 of the Health and Safety Code. The developer shall provide sufficient legal commitments to ensure continued availability of units for very low or low-income households in accordance with the provisions of this subdivision for 30 years.
- (5) Notwithstanding any other law, until January 1, 2025, "deemed complete" means that the applicant has submitted a preliminary application pursuant to Section 65941.1.
- (5) (6) "Disapprove the housing development project" includes any instance in which a local agency does either of the following:
- (A) Votes on a proposed housing development project application and the application is disapproved, including any required land use approvals or entitlements necessary for the issuance of a building permit.

- (B) Fails to comply with the time periods specified in subdivision (a) of Section 65950. An extension of time pursuant to Article 5 (commencing with Section 65950) shall be deemed to be an extension of time pursuant to this paragraph.
- (7) "Lower density" includes any conditions that have the same effect or impact on the ability of the project to provide housing.
- (8) Until January 1, 2025, "objective" means involving no personal or subjective judgment by a public official and being uniformly verifiable by reference to an external and uniform benchmark or criterion available and knowable by both the development applicant or proponent and the public official.
- (9) Notwithstanding any other law, until January 1, 2025, "determined to be complete" means that the applicant has submitted a complete application pursuant to Section 65943.
- (i) If any city, county, or city and county denies approval or imposes conditions, including design changes, lower density, or a reduction of the percentage of a lot that may be occupied by a building or structure under the applicable planning and zoning in force at the time *housing development project's* the application is deemed complete pursuant to Section 65943, complete, that have a substantial adverse effect on the viability or affordability of a housing development for very low, low-, or moderate-income households, and the denial of the development or the imposition of conditions on the development is the subject of a court action which challenges the denial or the imposition of conditions, then the burden of proof shall be on the local legislative body to show that its decision is consistent with the findings as described in subdivision (d) (d), and that the findings are supported by a preponderance of the evidence in the record. For purposes of this section, "lower density" includes any conditions that have the same effect or impact on the ability of the project to provide housing. record, and with the requirements of subdivision (o).
- (j) (1) When a proposed housing development project complies with applicable, objective general plan, zoning, and subdivision standards and criteria, including design review standards, in effect at the time that the housing development project's application is determined to be application was deemed complete, but the local agency proposes to disapprove the project or to impose a condition that the project be developed at a lower density, the local agency shall base its decision regarding the proposed housing development project upon written findings supported by a preponderance of the evidence on the record that both of the following conditions exist:
- (A) The housing development project would have a specific, adverse impact upon the public health or safety unless the project is disapproved or approved upon the condition that the project be developed at a lower density. As used in this paragraph, a "specific, adverse impact" means a significant, quantifiable, direct, and unavoidable impact, based on objective, identified written public health or safety standards, policies, or conditions as they existed on the date the application was deemed complete.
- (B) There is no feasible method to satisfactorily mitigate or avoid the adverse impact identified pursuant to paragraph (1), other than the disapproval of the housing development project or the approval of the project upon the condition that it be developed at a lower density.
- (2) (A) If the local agency considers a proposed housing development project to be inconsistent, not in compliance, or not in conformity with an applicable plan, program, policy, ordinance, standard, requirement, or other similar provision as specified in this subdivision, it shall provide the applicant with written documentation identifying the provision or provisions, and an explanation of the reason or reasons it considers the housing development to be inconsistent, not in compliance, or not in conformity as follows:

- (i) Within 30 days of the date that the application for the housing development project is determined to be complete, if the housing development project contains 150 or fewer housing units.
- (ii) Within 60 days of the date that the application for the housing development project is determined to be complete, if the housing development project contains more than 150 units.
- (B) If the local agency fails to provide the required documentation pursuant to subparagraph (A), the housing development project shall be deemed consistent, compliant, and in conformity with the applicable plan, program, policy, ordinance, standard, requirement, or other similar provision.
- (3) For purposes of this section, the receipt of a density bonus pursuant to Section 65915 shall not constitute a valid basis on which to find a proposed housing development project is inconsistent, not in compliance, or not in conformity, with an applicable plan, program, policy, ordinance, standard, requirement, or other similar provision specified in this subdivision.
- (4) For purposes of this section, a proposed housing development project is not inconsistent with the applicable zoning standards and criteria, and shall not require a rezoning, if the housing development project is consistent with the objective general plan standards and criteria but the zoning for the project site is inconsistent with the general plan. If the local agency has complied with paragraph (2), the local agency may require the proposed housing development project to comply with the objective standards and criteria of the zoning which is consistent with the general plan, however, the standards and criteria shall be applied to facilitate and accommodate development at the density allowed on the site by the general plan and proposed by the proposed housing development project.
- (5) (k) For (1) (A) (i) purposes of this section, "lower density" includes any conditions that have the same effect or impact on the ability of the project to provide housing. The applicant, a person who would be eligible to apply for residency in the housing development project or emergency shelter, or a housing organization may bring an action to enforce this section. If, in any action brought to enforce this section, a court finds that any of the following are met, the court shall issue an order pursuant to clause (ii):
- (I) The local agency, in violation of subdivision (d), disapproved a housing development project or conditioned its approval in a manner rendering it infeasible for the development of an emergency shelter, or housing for very low, low-, or moderate-income households, including farmworker housing, without making the findings required by this section or without making findings supported by a preponderance of the evidence.
- (II) The local agency, in violation of subdivision (j), disapproved a housing development project complying with applicable, objective general plan and zoning standards and criteria, or imposed a condition that the project be developed at a lower density, without making the findings required by this section or without making findings supported by a preponderance of the evidence.
- (III) (ia) Subject to sub-subclause (ib), the local agency, in violation of subdivision (o), required or attempted to require a housing development project to comply with an ordinance, policy, or standard not adopted and in effect when a preliminary application was submitted. (ib) This subclause shall become inoperative on January 1, 2025.
- (k) (ii) (1) If (A) The applicant, a person who would be eligible to apply for residency in the development or emergency shelter, or a housing organization may bring an action to enforce this section. If, in any action brought to enforce this section, a the court finds that either (i) the local agency, in violation of subdivision (d), disapproved a housing development project or conditioned its approval in a manner rendering it infeasible for the development of an emergency shelter, or

housing for very low, low-, or moderate-income households, including farmworker housing, without making the findings required by this section or without making findings supported by a prependerance of the evidence, or (ii) the local agency, in violation of subdivision (j), disapproved a housing development project complying with applicable, objective general plan and zoning standards and criteria, or imposed a condition that the project be developed at a lower density. without making the findings required by this section or without making findings supported by a preponderance of the evidence, the one of the conditions in clause(i) is met, the court shall issue an order or judgment compelling compliance with this section within 60 days, including, but not limited to, an order that the local agency take action on the housing development project or emergency shelter. The court may issue an order or judgment directing the local agency to approve the housing development project or emergency shelter if the court finds that the local agency acted in bad faith when it disapproved or conditionally approved the housing development or emergency shelter in violation of this section. The court shall retain jurisdiction to ensure that its order or judgment is carried out and shall award reasonable attorney's fees and costs of suit to the plaintiff or petitioner, except under extraordinary circumstances in which the court finds that awarding fees would not further the purposes of this section. For purposes of this section, "lower density" includes conditions that have the same effect or impact on the ability of the project to provide housing.

- (B) (i) Upon a determination that the local agency has failed to comply with the order or judgment compelling compliance with this section within 60 days issued pursuant to subparagraph (A), the court shall impose fines on a local agency that has violated this section and require the local agency to deposit any fine levied pursuant to this subdivision into a local housing trust fund. The local agency may elect to instead deposit the fine into the Building Homes and Jobs Fund, if Senate Bill 2 of the 2017–18 Regular Session is enacted, or otherwise in the Housing Rehabilitation Loan Fund. The fine shall be in a minimum amount of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) per housing unit in the housing development project on the date the application was deemed complete pursuant to Section 65943. In determining the amount of fine to impose, the court shall consider the local agency's progress in attaining its target allocation of the regional housing need pursuant to Section 65584 and any prior violations of this section. Fines shall not be paid out of funds already dedicated to affordable housing, including, but not limited to, Low and Moderate Income Housing Asset Funds, funds dedicated to housing for very low, low-, and moderate-income households, and federal HOME Investment Partnerships Program and Community Development Block Grant Program funds. The local agency shall commit and expend the money in the local housing trust fund within five years for the sole purpose of financing newly constructed housing units affordable to extremely low, very low, or low-income households. After five years, if the funds have not been expended, the money shall revert to the state and be deposited in the Building Homes and Jobs Fund, if Senate Bill 2 of the 2017-18 Regular Session is enacted, or otherwise in the Housing Rehabilitation Loan Fund, for the sole purpose of financing newly constructed housing units affordable to extremely low, very low, or low-income households.
- (ii) If any money derived from a fine imposed pursuant to this subparagraph is deposited in the Housing Rehabilitation Loan Fund, then, notwithstanding Section 50661 of the Health and Safety Code, that money shall be available only upon appropriation by the Legislature.
- (C) If the court determines that its order or judgment has not been carried out within 60 days, the court may issue further orders as provided by law to ensure that the purposes and policies of this section are fulfilled, including, but not limited to, an order to vacate the decision of the local agency and to approve the housing development project, in which case the application for the housing development project, as proposed by the applicant at the time the local agency took the initial action determined to be in violation of this section, along with any standard conditions determined

by the court to be generally imposed by the local agency on similar projects, shall be deemed to be approved unless the applicant consents to a different decision or action by the local agency.

- (2) For purposes of this subdivision, "housing organization" means a trade or industry group whose local members are primarily engaged in the construction or management of housing units or a nonprofit organization whose mission includes providing or advocating for increased access to housing for low-income households and have filed written or oral comments with the local agency prior to action on the housing development project. A housing organization may only file an action pursuant to this section to challenge the disapproval of a housing development by a local agency. A housing organization shall be entitled to reasonable attorney's fees and costs if it is the prevailing party in an action to enforce this section.
- (I) If the court finds that the local agency (1) acted in bad faith when it disapproved or conditionally approved the housing development or emergency shelter in violation of this section and (2) failed to carry out the court's order or judgment within 60 days as described in subdivision (k), the court, in addition to any other remedies provided by this section, shall multiply the fine determined pursuant to subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (k) by a factor of five. For purposes of this section, "bad faith" includes, but is not limited to, an action that is frivolous or otherwise entirely without merit.
- (m) Any action brought to enforce the provisions of this section shall be brought pursuant to Section 1094.5 of the Code of Civil Procedure, and the local agency shall prepare and certify the record of proceedings in accordance with subdivision (c) of Section 1094.6 of the Code of Civil Procedure no later than 30 days after the petition is served, provided that the cost of preparation of the record shall be borne by the local agency, unless the petitioner elects to prepare the record as provided in subdivision (n) of this section. A petition to enforce the provisions of this section shall be filed and served no later than 90 days from the later of (1) the effective date of a decision of the local agency imposing conditions on, disapproving, or any other final action on a housing development project or (2) the expiration of the time periods specified in subparagraph (B) of paragraph (5) of subdivision (h). Upon entry of the trial court's order, a party may, in order to obtain appellate review of the order, file a petition within 20 days after service upon it of a written notice of the entry of the order, or within such further time not exceeding an additional 20 days as the trial court may for good cause allow, or may appeal the judgment or order of the trial court under Section 904.1 of the Code of Civil Procedure. If the local agency appeals the judgment of the trial court, the local agency shall post a bond, in an amount to be determined by the court, to the benefit of the plaintiff if the plaintiff is the project applicant.
- (n) In any action, the record of the proceedings before the local agency shall be filed as expeditiously as possible and, notwithstanding Section 1094.6 of the Code of Civil Procedure or subdivision (m) of this section, all or part of the record may be prepared (1) by the petitioner with the petition or petitioner's points and authorities, (2) by the respondent with respondent's points and authorities, (3) after payment of costs by the petitioner, or (4) as otherwise directed by the court. If the expense of preparing the record has been borne by the petitioner and the petitioner is the prevailing party, the expense shall be taxable as costs.
- (o) (1) Subject to paragraphs (2), (6), and (7), and subdivision (d) of Section 65941.1, a housing development project shall be subject only to the ordinances, policies, and standards adopted and in effect when a preliminary application including all of the information required by subdivision (a) of Section 65941.1 was submitted.
- (2) Paragraph (1) shall not prohibit a housing development project from being subject to ordinances, policies, and standards adopted after the preliminary application was submitted pursuant to Section 65941.1 in the following circumstances:

- (A) In the case of a fee, charge, or other monetary exaction, to an increase resulting from an automatic annual adjustment based on an independently published cost index that is referenced in the ordinance or resolution establishing the fee or other monetary exaction.
- (B) A preponderance of the evidence in the record establishes that subjecting the housing development project to an ordinance, policy, or standard beyond those in effect when a preliminary application was submitted is necessary to mitigate or avoid a specific, adverse impact upon the public health or safety, as defined in subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (j), and there is no feasible alternative method to satisfactorily mitigate or avoid the adverse impact.
- (C) Subjecting the housing development project to an ordinance, policy, standard, or any other measure, beyond those in effect when a preliminary application was submitted is necessary to avoid or substantially lessen an impact of the project under the California Environmental Quality Act (Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code).
- (D) The housing development project has not commenced construction within two and one-half years following the date that the project received final approval. For purposes of this subparagraph, "final approval" means that the housing development project has received all necessary approvals to be eligible to apply for, and obtain, a building permit or permits and either of the following is met:
- (i) The expiration of all applicable appeal periods, petition periods, reconsideration periods, or statute of limitations for challenging that final approval without an appeal, petition, request for reconsideration, or legal challenge having been filed.
- (ii) If a challenge is filed, that challenge is fully resolved or settled in favor of the housing development project.
- (E) The housing development project is revised following submittal of a preliminary application pursuant to Section 65941.1 such that the number of residential units or square footage of construction changes by 20 percent or more, exclusive of any increase resulting from the receipt of a density bonus, incentive, concession, waiver, or similar provision. For purposes of this subdivision, "square footage of construction" means the building area, as defined by the California Building Standards Code (Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations).
- (3) This subdivision does not prevent a local agency from subjecting the additional units or square footage of construction that result from project revisions occurring after a preliminary application is submitted pursuant to Section 65941.1 to the ordinances, policies, and standards adopted and in effect when the preliminary application was submitted.
- (4) For purposes of this subdivision, "ordinances, policies, and standards" includes general plan, community plan, specific plan, zoning, design review standards and criteria, subdivision standards and criteria, and any other rules, regulations, requirements, and policies of a local agency, as defined in Section 66000, including those relating to development impact fees, capacity or connection fees or charges, permit or processing fees, and other exactions.
- (5) This subdivision shall not be construed in a manner that would lessen the restrictions imposed on a local agency, or lessen the protections afforded to a housing development project, that are established by any other law, including any other part of this section.
- (6) This subdivision shall not restrict the authority of a public agency or local agency to require mitigation measures to lessen the impacts of a housing development project under the California Environmental Quality Act (Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code).

- (7) With respect to completed residential units for which the project approval process is complete and a certificate of occupancy has been issued, nothing in this subdivision shall limit the application of later enacted ordinances, policies, and standards that regulate the use and occupancy of those residential units, such as ordinances relating to rental housing inspection, rent stabilization, restrictions on short-term renting, and business licensing requirements for owners of rental housing.
- (8) This subdivision shall become inoperative on January 1, 2025.
- (p) This section shall be known, and may be cited, as the Housing Accountability Act.

SEC. 3.2.

Section 65589.5 of the Government Code is amended to read:

65589.5.

- (a) (1) The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:
- (A) The lack of housing, including emergency shelters, is a critical problem that threatens the economic, environmental, and social quality of life in California.
- B) California housing has become the most expensive in the nation. The excessive cost of the state's housing supply is partially caused by activities and policies of many local governments that limit the approval of housing, increase the cost of land for housing, and require that high fees and exactions be paid by producers of housing.
- (C) Among the consequences of those actions are discrimination against low-income and minority households, lack of housing to support employment growth, imbalance in jobs and housing, reduced mobility, urban sprawl, excessive commuting, and air quality deterioration.
- (D) Many local governments do not give adequate attention to the economic, environmental, and social costs of decisions that result in disapproval of housing development projects, reduction in density of housing projects, and excessive standards for housing development projects.
- (2) In enacting the amendments made to this section by the act adding this paragraph, the Legislature further finds and declares the following:
- (A) California has a housing supply and affordability crisis of historic proportions. The consequences of failing to effectively and aggressively confront this crisis are hurting millions of Californians, robbing future generations of the chance to call California home, stifling economic opportunities for workers and businesses, worsening poverty and homelessness, and undermining the state's environmental and climate objectives.
- (B) While the causes of this crisis are multiple and complex, the absence of meaningful and effective policy reforms to significantly enhance the approval and supply of housing affordable to Californians of all income levels is a key factor.
- (C) The crisis has grown so acute in California that supply, demand, and affordability fundamentals are characterized in the negative: underserved demands, constrained supply, and protracted unaffordability.
- (D) According to reports and data, California has accumulated an unmet housing backlog of nearly 2,000,000 units and must provide for at least 180,000 new units annually to keep pace with growth through 2025.

- (E) California's overall homeownership rate is at its lowest level since the 1940s. The state ranks 49th out of the 50 states in homeownership rates as well as in the supply of housing per capita. Only one-half of California's households are able to afford the cost of housing in their local regions.
- (F) Lack of supply and rising costs are compounding inequality and limiting advancement opportunities for many Californians.
- (G) The majority of California renters, more than 3,000,000 households, pay more than 30 percent of their income toward rent and nearly one-third, more than 1,500,000 households, pay more than 50 percent of their income toward rent.
- (H) When Californians have access to safe and affordable housing, they have more money for food and health care; they are less likely to become homeless and in need of government-subsidized services; their children do better in school; and businesses have an easier time recruiting and retaining employees.
- (I) An additional consequence of the state's cumulative housing shortage is a significant increase in greenhouse gas emissions caused by the displacement and redirection of populations to states with greater housing opportunities, particularly working- and middle-class households. California's cumulative housing shortfall therefore has not only national but international environmental consequences.
- (J) California's housing picture has reached a crisis of historic proportions despite the fact that, for decades, the Legislature has enacted numerous statutes intended to significantly increase the approval, development, and affordability of housing for all income levels, including this section.
- (K) The Legislature's intent in enacting this section in 1982 and in expanding its provisions since then was to significantly increase the approval and construction of new housing for all economic segments of California's communities by meaningfully and effectively curbing the capability of local governments to deny, reduce the density for, or render infeasible housing development projects and emergency shelters. That intent has not been fulfilled.
- (L) It is the policy of the state that this section should be interpreted and implemented in a manner to afford the fullest possible weight to the interest of, and the approval and provision of, housing.
- (3) It is the intent of the Legislature that the conditions that would have a specific, adverse impact upon the public health and safety, as described in paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) and paragraph (1) of subdivision (j), arise infrequently.
- (b) It is the policy of the state that a local government not reject or make infeasible housing development projects, including emergency shelters, that contribute to meeting the need determined pursuant to this article without a thorough analysis of the economic, social, and environmental effects of the action and without complying with subdivision (d).
- (c) The Legislature also recognizes that premature and unnecessary development of agricultural lands for urban uses continues to have adverse effects on the availability of those lands for food and fiber production and on the economy of the state. Furthermore, it is the policy of the state that development should be guided away from prime agricultural lands; therefore, in implementing this section, local jurisdictions should encourage, to the maximum extent practicable, in filling existing urban areas.
- (d) A local agency shall not disapprove a housing development project, including farmworker housing as defined in subdivision (h) of Section 50199.7 of the Health and Safety Code, for very low, low-, or moderate-income households, or an emergency shelter, or condition approval in a manner that renders the housing development project infeasible for development for the use of

very low, low-, or moderate-income households, or an emergency shelter, including through the use of design review standards, unless it makes written findings, based upon a preponderance of the evidence in the record, as to one of the following:

- (1) The jurisdiction has adopted a housing element pursuant to this article that has been revised in accordance with Section 65588, is in substantial compliance with this article, and the jurisdiction has met or exceeded its share of the regional housing need allocation pursuant to Section 65584 for the planning period for the income category proposed for the housing development project, provided that any disapproval or conditional approval shall not be based on any of the reasons prohibited by Section 65008. If the housing development project includes a mix of income categories, and the jurisdiction has not met or exceeded its share of the regional housing need for one or more of those categories, then this paragraph shall not be used to disapprove or conditionally approve the housing development project. The share of the regional housing need met by the jurisdiction shall be calculated consistently with the forms and definitions that may be adopted by the Department of Housing and Community Development pursuant to Section 65400. In the case of an emergency shelter, the jurisdiction shall have met or exceeded the need for emergency shelter, as identified pursuant to paragraph (7) of subdivision (a) of Section 65583. Any disapproval or conditional approval pursuant to this paragraph shall be in accordance with applicable law, rule, or standards.
- (2) The housing development project or emergency shelter as proposed would have a specific, adverse impact upon the public health or safety, and there is no feasible method to satisfactorily mitigate or avoid the specific specific, adverse impact without rendering the development unaffordable to low- and moderate-income households or rendering the development of the emergency shelter financially infeasible. As used in this paragraph, a "specific, adverse impact" means a significant, quantifiable, direct, and unavoidable impact, based on objective, identified written public health or safety standards, policies, or conditions as they existed on the date the application was deemed complete. Inconsistency with the zoning ordinance or general plan land use designation—or determined to be complete. The following—shall not constitute a specific, adverse impact upon the public health or safety.
- (A) Inconsistency with the zoning ordinance or general plan land use designation.
- (B) The eligibility to claim a welfare exemption under subdivision (g) of Section 214 of the Revenue and Taxation Code.
- (3) The denial of the housing development project or imposition of conditions is required in order to comply with specific state or federal law, and there is no feasible method to comply without rendering the development unaffordable to low- and moderate-income households or rendering the development of the emergency shelter financially infeasible.
- (4) The housing development project or emergency shelter is proposed on land zoned for agriculture or resource preservation that is surrounded on at least two sides by land being used for agricultural or resource preservation purposes, or which does not have adequate water or wastewater facilities to serve the project.
- (5) The housing development project or emergency shelter is inconsistent with both the jurisdiction's zoning ordinance and general plan land use designation as specified in any element of the general plan as it existed on the date the application was deemed *or determined to*be complete, and the jurisdiction has adopted a revised housing element in accordance with Section 65588 that is in substantial compliance with this article. For purposes of this section, a change to the zoning ordinance or general plan land use designation subsequent to the date the

application was deemed *or determined to be* complete shall not constitute a valid basis to disapprove or condition approval of the housing development project or emergency shelter.

- (A) This paragraph cannot be utilized to disapprove or conditionally approve a housing development project if the housing development project is proposed on a site that is identified as suitable or available for very low, low-, or moderate-income households in the jurisdiction's housing element, and consistent with the density specified in the housing element, even though it is inconsistent with both the jurisdiction's zoning ordinance and general plan land use designation.
- (B) If the local agency has failed to identify in the inventory of land in its housing element sites that can be developed for housing within the planning period and are sufficient to provide for the jurisdiction's share of the regional housing need for all income levels pursuant to Section 65584, then this paragraph shall not be utilized to disapprove or conditionally approve a housing development project proposed for a site designated in any element of the general plan for residential uses or designated in any element of the general plan for commercial uses if residential uses are permitted or conditionally permitted within commercial designations. In any action in court, the burden of proof shall be on the local agency to show that its housing element does identify adequate sites with appropriate zoning and development standards and with services and facilities to accommodate the local agency's share of the regional housing need for the very low, low-, and moderate-income categories.
- (C) If the local agency has failed to identify a zone or zones where emergency shelters are allowed as a permitted use without a conditional use or other discretionary permit, has failed to demonstrate that the identified zone or zones include sufficient capacity to accommodate the need for emergency shelter identified in paragraph (7) of subdivision (a) of Section 65583, or has failed to demonstrate that the identified zone or zones can accommodate at least one emergency shelter, as required by paragraph (4) of subdivision (a) of Section 65583, then this paragraph shall not be utilized to disapprove or conditionally approve an emergency shelter proposed for a site designated in any element of the general plan for industrial, commercial, or multifamily residential uses. In any action in court, the burden of proof shall be on the local agency to show that its housing element does satisfy the requirements of paragraph (4) of subdivision (a) of Section 65583.
- (e) Nothing in this section shall be construed to relieve the local agency from complying with the congestion management program required by Chapter 2.6 (commencing with Section 65088) of Division 1 of Title 7 or the California Coastal Act of 1976 (Division 20 (commencing with Section 30000) of the Public Resources Code). Neither shall anything—Nothing—In this section shall—be construed to relieve the local agency from making one or more of the findings required pursuant to Section 21081 of the Public Resources Code or otherwise complying with the California Environmental Quality Act (Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code).
- (f) (1) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit a local agency from requiring the housing development project to comply with objective, quantifiable, written development standards, conditions, and policies appropriate to, and consistent with, meeting the jurisdiction's share of the regional housing need pursuant to Section 65584. However, the development standards, conditions, and policies shall be applied to facilitate and accommodate development at the density permitted on the site and proposed by the development.
- (2) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit a local agency from requiring an emergency shelter project to comply with objective, quantifiable, written development standards, conditions, and policies that are consistent with paragraph (4) of subdivision (a) of Section 65583 and appropriate to, and consistent with, meeting the jurisdiction's need for emergency shelter, as

identified pursuant to paragraph (7) of subdivision (a) of Section 65583. However, the development standards, conditions, and policies shall be applied by the local agency to facilitate and accommodate the development of the emergency shelter project.

- (3) This section does not prohibit a local agency from imposing fees and other exactions otherwise authorized by law that are essential to provide necessary public services and facilities to the housing development project or emergency shelter.
- (4) For purposes of this section, a housing development project or emergency shelter shall be deemed consistent, compliant, and in conformity with an applicable plan, program, policy, ordinance, standard, requirement, or other similar provision if there is substantial evidence that would allow a reasonable person to conclude that the housing development project or emergency shelter is consistent, compliant, or in conformity.
- (g) This section shall be applicable to charter cities because the Legislature finds that the lack of housing, including emergency shelter, is a critical statewide problem.
- (h) The following definitions apply for the purposes of this section:
- (1) "Feasible" means capable of being accomplished in a successful manner within a reasonable period of time, taking into account economic, environmental, social, and technological factors.
- (2) "Housing development project" means a use consisting of any of the following:
- (A) Residential units only.
- (B) Mixed-use developments consisting of residential and nonresidential uses with at least twothirds of the square footage designated for residential use.
- (C) Transitional housing or supportive housing.
- (D) Accessory dwelling unit as defined in Section 65852.2.
- (3) "Housing for very low, low-, or moderate-income households" means that either (A) at least 20 percent of the total units shall be sold or rented to lower income households, as defined in Section 50079.5 of the Health and Safety Code, or (B) 100 percent of the units shall be sold or rented to persons and families of moderate income as defined in Section 50093 of the Health and Safety Code, or persons and families of middle income, as defined in Section 65008 of this code. Housing units targeted for lower income households shall be made available at a monthly housing cost that does not exceed 30 percent of 60 percent of area median income with adjustments for household size made in accordance with the adjustment factors on which the lower income eligibility limits are based. Housing units targeted for persons and families of moderate income shall be made available at a monthly housing cost that does not exceed 30 percent of 100 percent of area median income with adjustments for household size made in accordance with the adjustment factors on which the moderate-income eligibility limits are based.
- (4) "Area median income" means area median income as periodically established by the Department of Housing and Community Development pursuant to Section 50093 of the Health and Safety Code. The developer shall provide sufficient legal commitments to ensure continued availability of units for very low or low-income households in accordance with the provisions of this subdivision for 30 years.
- (5) "Disapprove the housing development project" includes any instance in which a local agency does either of the following:

- (A) Votes Takes action on a proposed housing development project application and the application is disapproved, including any required land use approvals or entitlements necessary for the issuance of a building permit.
- (B) Fails to comply with the time periods specified in subdivision (a) of Section 65950. An extension of time pursuant to Article 5 (commencing with Section 65950) shall be deemed *or determined* to be an extension of time pursuant to this paragraph.
- (i) If any city, county, or city and county denies approval or imposes conditions, including design changes, lower density, or a reduction of the percentage of a lot that may be occupied by a building or structure under the applicable planning and zoning in force at the time the application is deemed *or determined to be* complete pursuant to Section 65943, that have a substantial adverse effect on the viability or affordability of a housing development for very low, low-, or moderate-income households, and the denial of the development or the imposition of conditions on the development is the subject of a court action which challenges the denial or the imposition of conditions, then the burden of proof shall be on the local legislative body to show that its decision is consistent with the findings as described in subdivision (d) and that the findings are supported by a preponderance of the evidence in the record. For purposes of this section, "lower density" includes any conditions that have the same effect or impact on the ability of the *housing development* project to provide housing, including a condition requiring a reduction in the number of bedrooms, but does not include any conditions that ensure that residential uses of the housing development project are used for residential and not commercial uses.
- (j) (1) When a proposed housing development project complies with applicable, objective general plan, zoning, and subdivision standards and criteria, including design review standards, in effect at the time that the housing development project's application is *deemed or* determined to be complete, but the local agency proposes to disapprove the project or to impose a condition that the project be developed at a lower density, the local agency shall base its decision regarding the proposed housing development project upon written findings supported by a preponderance of the evidence on the record that both of the following conditions exist:
- (A) The housing development project would have a specific, adverse impact upon the public health or safety unless the project is disapproved or approved upon the condition that the project be developed at a lower density. As used in this paragraph, a "specific, adverse impact" means a significant, quantifiable, direct, and unavoidable impact, based on objective, identified written public health or safety standards, policies, or conditions as they existed on the date the application was deemed *or determined to be* complete.
- (B) There is no feasible method to satisfactorily mitigate or avoid the adverse impact identified pursuant to paragraph (1), other than the disapproval of the housing development project or the approval of the project upon the condition that it be developed at a lower density.
- (2) (A) If the local agency considers a proposed housing development project to be inconsistent, not in compliance, or not in conformity with an applicable plan, program, policy, ordinance, standard, requirement, or other similar provision as specified in this subdivision, it shall provide the applicant with written documentation identifying the provision or provisions, and an explanation of the reason or reasons it considers the housing development to be inconsistent, not in compliance, or not in conformity as follows:
- (i) Within 30 days of the date that the application for the housing development project is *deemed or* determined to be complete, if the housing development project contains 150 or fewer housing units.

- (ii) Within 60 days of the date that the application for the housing development project is *deemed or* determined to be complete, if the housing development project contains more than 150 units.
- (B) If an applicant elects to revise the application in response to any comments, and the local agency considers a proposed housing development project to be inconsistent, not in compliance, or not in conformity with an applicable plan, program, policy, ordinance, standard, requirement, or other similar provision as specified in this subdivision, the local agency shall provide the applicant with written documentation identifying the provision or provisions, and an explanation of the reason or reasons it considers the housing development to be inconsistent, not in compliance, or not in conformity within 30 days of the date that the revisions are submitted.
- (B) (C) If the local agency fails to provide the required documentation pursuant to subparagraph (A), (A) or (B), the housing development project shall be deemed consistent, compliant, and in conformity with the applicable plan, program, policy, ordinance, standard, requirement, or other similar provision.
- (3) For purposes of this section, the receipt of a density bonus pursuant to Section 65915 shall not constitute a valid basis on which to find a proposed housing development project is inconsistent, not in compliance, or not in conformity, conformity with an applicable plan, program, policy, ordinance, standard, requirement, or other similar provision specified in this subdivision.
- (4) For purposes of this section, a proposed housing development project is not inconsistent with the applicable zoning standards and criteria, and shall not require a rezoning, if the housing development project is consistent with the objective general plan standards and criteria but the zoning for the project site is inconsistent with the general plan. If the local agency has complied with paragraph (2), the local agency may require the proposed housing development project to comply with the objective standards and criteria of the zoning which is consistent with the general plan, however, the standards and criteria shall be applied to facilitate and accommodate development at the density allowed on the site by the general plan and proposed by the proposed housing development project.
- (5) For purposes of this section, "lower density" includes any conditions that have the same effect or impact on the ability of the *housing development* project to provide housing. housing, including a condition requiring a reduction in the number of bedrooms, but does not include any conditions that ensure that residential uses of the housing development project are used for residential and not commercial uses.
- (k) (1) (A) The applicant, a person who would be eligible to apply for residency in the housing development project or emergency shelter, or a housing organization may bring an action to enforce this section. If, in any action brought to enforce this section, a court finds that either (i) the local agency, in violation of subdivision (d), disapproved a housing development project or conditioned its approval in a manner rendering it infeasible for the development of an emergency shelter, or housing for very low, low-, or moderate-income households, including farmworker housing, without making the findings required by this section or without making findings supported by a preponderance of the evidence, or (ii) the local agency, in violation of subdivision (i), disapproved a housing development project complying with applicable, objective general plan and zoning standards and criteria, or imposed a condition that the project be developed at a lower density, without making the findings required by this section or without making findings supported by a preponderance of the evidence, the court shall issue an order or judgment compelling compliance with this section within 60 days, including, but not limited to, an order that the local agency take action on the housing development project or emergency shelter. The court may issue an order or judgment directing the local agency to approve the housing development project or emergency shelter, including approval of all necessary entitlements

for construction thereof, if the court finds that the local agency acted in bad faith when it disapproved or conditionally approved the housing development project or emergency shelter in violation of this section. The court shall retain jurisdiction to ensure that its order or judgment is carried out and shall award reasonable attorney's fees and costs of suit to the plaintiff or petitioner, except under extraordinary circumstances in which the court finds that awarding fees would not further the purposes of this section. For purposes of this section, "lower density" includes conditions that have the same effect or impact on the ability of the housing development project to provide housing, including a condition requiring a reduction in the number of bedrooms.

- (B) (i) Upon a determination that the local agency has failed to comply with the order or judgment compelling compliance with this section within 60 days issued pursuant to subparagraph (A), the court shall impose fines on a local agency that has violated this section and require the local agency to deposit any fine levied pursuant to this subdivision into a local housing trust fund. The local agency may elect to instead deposit the fine into the Building Homes and Jobs Trust Fund, if Senate Bill 2 of the 2017–18 Regular Session is enacted, or otherwise in the Housing Rehabilitation Loan Fund. The fine shall be in a minimum amount of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) per housing unit in the housing development project on the date the application was deemed or determined to be complete pursuant to Section 65943. In determining the amount of fine to impose, the court shall consider the local agency's progress in attaining its target allocation of the regional housing need pursuant to Section 65584 and any prior violations of this section. Fines shall not be paid out of funds already dedicated to affordable housing, including, but not limited to, Low and Moderate Income Housing Asset Funds, funds dedicated to housing for very low, low-, and moderate-income households, and federal HOME Investment Partnerships Program and Community Development Block Grant Program funds. The local agency shall commit and expend the money in the local housing trust fund within five years for the sole purpose of financing newly constructed housing units affordable to extremely low, very low, or low-income households. After five years, if the funds have not been expended, the money shall revert to the state and be deposited in the Building Homes and Jobs Trust Fund, if Senate Bill 2 of the 2017–18 Regular Session is enacted, or otherwise in the Housing Rehabilitation Loan Fund, for the sole purpose of financing newly constructed housing units affordable to extremely low, very low, or low-income households.
- (ii) If any money derived from a fine imposed pursuant to this subparagraph is deposited in the Housing Rehabilitation Loan Fund, then, notwithstanding Section 50661 of the Health and Safety Code, that money shall be available only upon appropriation by the Legislature.
- (C) If the court determines that its order or judgment has not been carried out within 60 days, the court may issue further orders as provided by law to ensure that the purposes and policies of this section are fulfilled, including, but not limited to, an order to vacate the decision of the local agency and to approve the housing development project, in which case the application for the housing development project, as proposed by the applicant at the time the local agency took the initial action determined to be in violation of this section, along with any standard conditions determined by the court to be generally imposed by the local agency on similar projects, shall be deemed to be approved unless the applicant consents to a different decision or action by the local agency.
- (2) For purposes of this subdivision, "housing organization" means a trade or industry group whose local members are primarily engaged in the construction or management of housing units or a nonprofit organization whose mission includes providing or advocating for increased access to housing for low-income households and have filed written or oral comments with the local agency prior to action on the housing development project. A housing organization may only file an action pursuant to this section to challenge the disapproval *or reduction in density* of a housing development *project* by a local agency. A housing organization shall be entitled to reasonable

attorney's fees and costs if it is the prevailing party in an action to enforce this section. *Nothing in this section is intended to limit the application of Section 1021.5 of the Code of Civil Procedure.*

- (I) If the court finds that the local agency (1) acted in bad faith when it disapproved or conditionally approved the housing development or emergency shelter in violation of this section and (2) failed to carry out the court's order or judgment within 60 days as described in subdivision (k), the court, in addition to any other remedies provided by this section, shall multiply the fine determined pursuant to subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (k) by a factor of five. For purposes of this section, "bad faith" includes, but is not limited to, an action that is frivolous or otherwise entirely without merit.
- (m) Any action brought to enforce the provisions of this section, regardless of whether the action of the local agency was taken in a proceeding in which by law a hearing is required. shall be brought pursuant to Section 1094.5 of the Code of Civil Procedure, and the local agency shall prepare and certify the record of proceedings in accordance with subdivision (c) of Section 1094.6 of the Code of Civil Procedure no later than 30 days after the petition is served, provided that the cost of preparation of the record shall be borne by the local agency, unless the petitioner elects to prepare the record as provided in subdivision (n) of this section. A petition to enforce the provisions of this section shall be filed and served no later than 90 days from the later of (1) the effective date of a decision of the local agency imposing conditions on, disapproving, or any other final action on a housing development project or (2) the expiration of the time periods specified in subparagraph (B) of paragraph (5) of subdivision (h). Upon entry of the trial court's order, a party may, in order to obtain appellate review of the order, file a petition within 20 days after service upon it of a written notice of the entry of the order, or within such further time not exceeding an additional 20 days as the trial court may for good cause allow, or may appeal the judgment or order of the trial court under Section 904.1 of the Code of Civil Procedure. If the local agency appeals the judgment of the trial court, the local agency shall post a bond, in an amount to be determined by the court, to the benefit of the plaintiff if the plaintiff is the project applicant.
- (n) In any action, the record of the proceedings before the local agency shall be filed as expeditiously as possible and, notwithstanding Section 1094.6 of the Code of Civil Procedure or subdivision (m) of this section, all or part of the record may be prepared (1) by the petitioner with the petition or petitioner's points and authorities, (2) by the respondent with respondent's points and authorities, (3) after payment of costs by the petitioner, or (4) as otherwise directed by the court. If the expense of preparing the record has been borne by the petitioner and the petitioner is the prevailing party, the expense shall be taxable as costs.
- (o) (1) This section shall apply to a housing development project regardless of whether the local agency's review of the project is a ministerial or use by right decision, or a discretionary approval.
- (2) Nothing in this section is intended to prohibit a local government from requiring a conditional use permit for a housing development project to the extent the conditional use permit meets the requirements of this section.
- (o) (p) This section shall be known, and may be cited, as the Housing Accountability Act.

SEC. 3.3.

Section 65589.5 of the Government Code is amended to read:

65589.5.

- (a) (1) The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:
- (A) The lack of housing, including emergency shelters, is a critical problem that threatens the economic, environmental, and social quality of life in California.

- (B) California housing has become the most expensive in the nation. The excessive cost of the state's housing supply is partially caused by activities and policies of many local governments that limit the approval of housing, increase the cost of land for housing, and require that high fees and exactions be paid by producers of housing.
- (C) Among the consequences of those actions are discrimination against low-income and minority households, lack of housing to support employment growth, imbalance in jobs and housing, reduced mobility, urban sprawl, excessive commuting, and air quality deterioration.
- (D) Many local governments do not give adequate attention to the economic, environmental, and social costs of decisions that result in disapproval of housing development projects, reduction in density of housing projects, and excessive standards for housing development projects.
- (2) In enacting the amendments made to this section by the act adding this paragraph, the Legislature further finds and declares the following:
- (A) California has a housing supply and affordability crisis of historic proportions. The consequences of failing to effectively and aggressively confront this crisis are hurting millions of Californians, robbing future generations of the chance to call California home, stifling economic opportunities for workers and businesses, worsening poverty and homelessness, and undermining the state's environmental and climate objectives.
- (B) While the causes of this crisis are multiple and complex, the absence of meaningful and effective policy reforms to significantly enhance the approval and supply of housing affordable to Californians of all income levels is a key factor.
- (C) The crisis has grown so acute in California that supply, demand, and affordability fundamentals are characterized in the negative: underserved demands, constrained supply, and protracted unaffordability.
- (D) According to reports and data, California has accumulated an unmet housing backlog of nearly 2,000,000 units and must provide for at least 180,000 new units annually to keep pace with growth through 2025.
- (E) California's overall homeownership rate is at its lowest level since the 1940s. The state ranks 49th out of the 50 states in homeownership rates as well as in the supply of housing per capita. Only one-half of California's households are able to afford the cost of housing in their local regions.
- (F) Lack of supply and rising costs are compounding inequality and limiting advancement opportunities for many Californians.
- (G) The majority of California renters, more than 3,000,000 households, pay more than 30 percent of their income toward rent and nearly one-third, more than 1,500,000 households, pay more than 50 percent of their income toward rent.
- (H) When Californians have access to safe and affordable housing, they have more money for food and health care; they are less likely to become homeless and in need of government-subsidized services; their children do better in school; and businesses have an easier time recruiting and retaining employees.
- (I) An additional consequence of the state's cumulative housing shortage is a significant increase in greenhouse gas emissions caused by the displacement and redirection of populations to states with greater housing opportunities, particularly working- and middle-class households. California's cumulative housing shortfall therefore has not only national but international environmental consequences.

- (J) California's housing picture has reached a crisis of historic proportions despite the fact that, for decades, the Legislature has enacted numerous statutes intended to significantly increase the approval, development, and affordability of housing for all income levels, including this section.
- (K) The Legislature's intent in enacting this section in 1982 and in expanding its provisions since then was to significantly increase the approval and construction of new housing for all economic segments of California's communities by meaningfully and effectively curbing the capability of local governments to deny, reduce the density for, or render infeasible housing development projects and emergency shelters. That intent has not been fulfilled.
- (L) It is the policy of the state that this section should be interpreted and implemented in a manner to afford the fullest possible weight to the interest of, and the approval and provision of, housing.
- (3) It is the intent of the Legislature that the conditions that would have a specific, adverse impact upon the public health and safety, as described in paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) and paragraph (1) of subdivision (j), arise infrequently.
- (b) It is the policy of the state that a local government not reject or make infeasible housing development projects, including emergency shelters, that contribute to meeting the need determined pursuant to this article without a thorough analysis of the economic, social, and environmental effects of the action and without complying with subdivision (d).
- (c) The Legislature also recognizes that premature and unnecessary development of agricultural lands for urban uses continues to have adverse effects on the availability of those lands for food and fiber production and on the economy of the state. Furthermore, it is the policy of the state that development should be guided away from prime agricultural lands; therefore, in implementing this section, local jurisdictions should encourage, to the maximum extent practicable, in filling existing urban areas.
- (d) A local agency shall not disapprove a housing development project, including farmworker housing as defined in subdivision (h) of Section 50199.7 of the Health and Safety Code, for very low, low-, or moderate-income households, or an emergency shelter, or condition approval in a manner that renders the housing development project infeasible for development for the use of very low, low-, or moderate-income households, or an emergency shelter, including through the use of design review standards, unless it makes written findings, based upon a preponderance of the evidence in the record, as to one of the following:
- (1) The jurisdiction has adopted a housing element pursuant to this article that has been revised in accordance with Section 65588, is in substantial compliance with this article, and the jurisdiction has met or exceeded its share of the regional housing need allocation pursuant to Section 65584 for the planning period for the income category proposed for the housing development project, provided that any disapproval or conditional approval shall not be based on any of the reasons prohibited by Section 65008. If the housing development project includes a mix of income categories, and the jurisdiction has not met or exceeded its share of the regional housing need for one or more of those categories, then this paragraph shall not be used to disapprove or conditionally approve the housing development project. The share of the regional housing need met by the jurisdiction shall be calculated consistently with the forms and definitions that may be adopted by the Department of Housing and Community Development pursuant to Section 65400. In the case of an emergency shelter, the jurisdiction shall have met or exceeded the need for emergency shelter, as identified pursuant to paragraph (7) of subdivision (a) of Section 65583. Any disapproval or conditional approval pursuant to this paragraph shall be in accordance with applicable law, rule, or standards.

- (2) The housing development project or emergency shelter as proposed would have a specific, adverse impact upon the public health or safety, and there is no feasible method to satisfactorily mitigate or avoid the specific specific, adverse impact without rendering the development unaffordable to low- and moderate-income households or rendering the development of the emergency shelter financially infeasible. As used in this paragraph, a "specific, adverse impact" means a significant, quantifiable, direct, and unavoidable impact, based on objective, identified written public health or safety standards, policies, or conditions as they existed on the date the application was deemed complete. Inconsistency with the zoning ordinance or general plan land use designation or determined to be complete. The following shall not constitute a specific, adverse impact upon the public health or safety:
- (A) Inconsistency with the zoning ordinance or general plan land use designation.
- (B) The eligibility to claim a welfare exemption under subdivision (g) of Section 214 of the Revenue and Taxation Code.
- (3) The denial of the housing development project or imposition of conditions is required in order to comply with specific state or federal law, and there is no feasible method to comply without rendering the development unaffordable to low- and moderate-income households or rendering the development of the emergency shelter financially infeasible.
- (4) The housing development project or emergency shelter is proposed on land zoned for agriculture or resource preservation that is surrounded on at least two sides by land being used for agricultural or resource preservation purposes, or which does not have adequate water or wastewater facilities to serve the project.
- (5) The housing development project or emergency shelter is inconsistent with both the jurisdiction's zoning ordinance and general plan land use designation as specified in any element of the general plan as it existed on the date the application was deemed *or determined to be* complete, and the jurisdiction has adopted a revised housing element in accordance with Section 65588 that is in substantial compliance with this article. For purposes of this section, a change to the zoning ordinance or general plan land use designation subsequent to the date the application was deemed *or determined to be* complete shall not constitute a valid basis to disapprove or condition approval of the housing development project or emergency shelter.
- (A) This paragraph cannot be utilized to disapprove or conditionally approve a housing development project if the housing development project is proposed on a site that is identified as suitable or available for very low, low-, or moderate-income households in the jurisdiction's housing element, and consistent with the density specified in the housing element, even though it is inconsistent with both the jurisdiction's zoning ordinance and general plan land use designation.
- (B) If the local agency has failed to identify in the inventory of land in its housing element sites that can be developed for housing within the planning period and are sufficient to provide for the jurisdiction's share of the regional housing need for all income levels pursuant to Section 65584, then this paragraph shall not be utilized to disapprove or conditionally approve a housing development project proposed for a site designated in any element of the general plan for residential uses or designated in any element of the general plan for commercial uses if residential uses are permitted or conditionally permitted within commercial designations. In any action in court, the burden of proof shall be on the local agency to show that its housing element does identify adequate sites with appropriate zoning and development standards and with services and facilities to accommodate the local agency's share of the regional housing need for the very low, low-, and moderate-income categories.

- (C) If the local agency has failed to identify a zone or zones where emergency shelters are allowed as a permitted use without a conditional use or other discretionary permit, has failed to demonstrate that the identified zone or zones include sufficient capacity to accommodate the need for emergency shelter identified in paragraph (7) of subdivision (a) of Section 65583, or has failed to demonstrate that the identified zone or zones can accommodate at least one emergency shelter, as required by paragraph (4) of subdivision (a) of Section 65583, then this paragraph shall not be utilized to disapprove or conditionally approve an emergency shelter proposed for a site designated in any element of the general plan for industrial, commercial, or multifamily residential uses. In any action in court, the burden of proof shall be on the local agency to show that its housing element does satisfy the requirements of paragraph (4) of subdivision (a) of Section 65583.
- (e) Nothing in this section shall be construed to relieve the local agency from complying with the congestion management program required by Chapter 2.6 (commencing with Section 65088) of Division 1 of Title 7 or the California Coastal Act of 1976 (Division 20 (commencing with Section 30000) of the Public Resources Code). Neither shall anything—Nothing in this section shall be construed to relieve the local agency from making one or more of the findings required pursuant to Section 21081 of the Public Resources Code or otherwise complying with the California Environmental Quality Act (Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code).
- (f) (1) Nothing in Except as provided in subdivision (o), nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit a local agency from requiring the housing development project to comply with objective, quantifiable, written development standards, conditions, and policies appropriate to, and consistent with, meeting the jurisdiction's share of the regional housing need pursuant to Section 65584. However, the development standards, conditions, and policies shall be applied to facilitate and accommodate development at the density permitted on the site and proposed by the development.
- (2) Nothing in Except as provided in subdivision (o), nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit a local agency from requiring an emergency shelter project to comply with objective, quantifiable, written development standards, conditions, and policies that are consistent with paragraph (4) of subdivision (a) of Section 65583 and appropriate to, and consistent with, meeting the jurisdiction's need for emergency shelter, as identified pursuant to paragraph (7) of subdivision (a) of Section 65583. However, the development standards, conditions, and policies shall be applied by the local agency to facilitate and accommodate the development of the emergency shelter project.
- (3) This section does not Except as provided in subdivision (o), nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit a local agency from imposing fees and other exactions otherwise authorized by law that are essential to provide necessary public services and facilities to the housing development project or emergency shelter.
- (4) For purposes of this section, a housing development project or emergency shelter shall be deemed consistent, compliant, and in conformity with an applicable plan, program, policy, ordinance, standard, requirement, or other similar provision if there is substantial evidence that would allow a reasonable person to conclude that the housing development project or emergency shelter is consistent, compliant, or in conformity.
- (g) This section shall be applicable to charter cities because the Legislature finds that the lack of housing, including emergency shelter, is a critical statewide problem.
- (h) The following definitions apply for the purposes of this section:

- (1) "Feasible" means capable of being accomplished in a successful manner within a reasonable period of time, taking into account economic, environmental, social, and technological factors.
- (2) "Housing development project" means a use consisting of any of the following:
- (A) Residential units only.
- (B) Mixed-use developments consisting of residential and nonresidential uses with at least twothirds of the square footage designated for residential use.
- (C) Transitional housing or supportive housing.
- (D) Accessory dwelling unit, as defined in Section 65852.2.
- (3) "Housing for very low, low-, or moderate-income households" means that either (A) at least 20 percent of the total units shall be sold or rented to lower income households, as defined in Section 50079.5 of the Health and Safety Code, or (B) 100 percent of the units shall be sold or rented to persons and families of moderate income as defined in Section 50093 of the Health and Safety Code, or persons and families of middle income, as defined in Section 65008 of this code. Housing units targeted for lower income households shall be made available at a monthly housing cost that does not exceed 30 percent of 60 percent of area median income with adjustments for household size made in accordance with the adjustment factors on which the lower income eligibility limits are based. Housing units targeted for persons and families of moderate income shall be made available at a monthly housing cost that does not exceed 30 percent of 100 percent of area median income with adjustments for household size made in accordance with the adjustment factors on which the moderate-income eligibility limits are based
- 4) "Area median income" means area median income as periodically established by the Department of Housing and Community Development pursuant to Section 50093 of the Health and Safety Code. The developer shall provide sufficient legal commitments to ensure continued availability of units for very low or low-income households in accordance with the provisions of this subdivision for 30 years.
- (5) Notwithstanding any other law, until January 1, 2025, "deemed complete" means that the applicant has submitted a preliminary application pursuant to Section 65941.1.
- (5) (6) "Disapprove the housing development project" includes any instance in which a local agency does either of the following:
- (A) Votes Takes action on a proposed housing development project application and the application is disapproved, including any required land use approvals or entitlements necessary for the issuance of a building permit.
- (B) Fails to comply with the time periods specified in subdivision (a) of Section 65950. An extension of time pursuant to Article 5 (commencing with Section 65950) shall be deemed *or determined* to be an extension of time pursuant to this paragraph.
- (7) "Lower density" includes any conditions that have the same effect or impact on the ability of the project to provide housing.
- (8) Until January 1, 2025, "objective" means involving no personal or subjective judgment by a public official and being uniformly verifiable by reference to an external and uniform benchmark or criterion available and knowable by both the development applicant or proponent and the public official.

- (9) Notwithstanding any other law, until January 1, 2025, "determined to be complete" means that the applicant has submitted a complete application pursuant to Section 65943.
- (i) If any city, county, or city and county denies approval or imposes conditions, including design changes, lower density, or a reduction of the percentage of a lot that may be occupied by a building or structure under the applicable planning and zoning in force at the time the *housing development project*'s application is deemed complete pursuant to Section 65943, or determined to be complete, that have a substantial adverse effect on the viability or affordability of a housing development for very low, low-, or moderate-income households, and the denial of the development or the imposition of conditions on the development is the subject of a court action which challenges the denial or the imposition of conditions, then the burden of proof shall be on the local legislative body to show that its decision is consistent with the findings as described in subdivision (d) (d), and that the findings are supported by a preponderance of the evidence in the record. For purposes of this section, "lower density" includes any conditions that have the same effect or impact on the ability of the project to provide housing. record, and with the requirements of subdivision (o).
- (j) (1) When a proposed housing development project complies with applicable, objective general plan, zoning, and subdivision standards and criteria, including design review standards, in effect at the time that the housing development project's application is application was deemed or determined to be complete, but the local agency proposes to disapprove the project or to impose a condition that the project be developed at a lower density, the local agency shall base its decision regarding the proposed housing development project upon written findings supported by a preponderance of the evidence on the record that both of the following conditions exist:
- (A) The housing development project would have a specific, adverse impact upon the public health or safety unless the project is disapproved or approved upon the condition that the project be developed at a lower density. As used in this paragraph, a "specific, adverse impact" means a significant, quantifiable, direct, and unavoidable impact, based on objective, identified written public health or safety standards, policies, or conditions as they existed on the date the application was deemed *or determined to be* complete.
- (B) There is no feasible method to satisfactorily mitigate or avoid the adverse impact identified pursuant to paragraph (1), other than the disapproval of the housing development project or the approval of the project upon the condition that it be developed at a lower density.
- (2) (A) If the local agency considers a proposed housing development project to be inconsistent, not in compliance, or not in conformity with an applicable plan, program, policy, ordinance, standard, requirement, or other similar provision as specified in this subdivision, it shall provide the applicant with written documentation identifying the provision or provisions, and an explanation of the reason or reasons it considers the housing development to be inconsistent, not in compliance, or not in conformity as follows:
- (i) Within 30 days of the date that the application for the housing development project is *deemed or* determined to be complete, if the housing development project contains 150 or fewer housing units.
- (ii) Within 60 days of the date that the application for the housing development project is *deemed or* determined to be complete, if the housing development project contains more than 150 units.
- (B) If an applicant elects to revise the application in response to any comments, and the local agency considers a proposed housing development project to be inconsistent, not in compliance, or not in conformity with an applicable plan, program, policy, ordinance, standard, requirement, or other similar provision as specified in this subdivision, the local agency shall provide the applicant

with written documentation identifying the provision or provisions, and an explanation of the reason or reasons it considers the housing development to be inconsistent, not in compliance, or not in conformity within 30 days of the date that the revisions are submitted.

- (B) (C) If the local agency fails to provide the required documentation pursuant to subparagraph (A), (A) or (B), the housing development project shall be deemed consistent, compliant, and in conformity with the applicable plan, program, policy, ordinance, standard, requirement, or other similar provision.
- (3) For purposes of this section, the receipt of a density bonus pursuant to Section 65915 shall not constitute a valid basis on which to find a proposed housing development project is inconsistent, not in compliance, or not in conformity, conformity with an applicable plan, program, policy, ordinance, standard, requirement, or other similar provision specified in this subdivision.
- (4) For purposes of this section, a proposed housing development project is not inconsistent with the applicable zoning standards and criteria, and shall not require a rezoning, if the housing development project is consistent with the objective general plan standards and criteria but the zoning for the project site is inconsistent with the general plan. If the local agency has complied with paragraph (2), the local agency may require the proposed housing development project to comply with the objective standards and criteria of the zoning which is consistent with the general plan, however, the standards and criteria shall be applied to facilitate and accommodate development at the density allowed on the site by the general plan and proposed by the proposed housing development project.
- (5) For purposes of this section, "lower density" includes any conditions that have the same effect or impact on the ability of the *housing development* project to provide housing, including a condition requiring a reduction in the number of bedrooms, but does not include any conditions that ensure that residential uses of the housing development project are used for residential and not commercial uses.
- (k) (1) (A) (i) The applicant, a person who would be eligible to apply for residency in the housing development project or emergency shelter, or a housing organization may bring an action to enforce this section. If, in any action brought to enforce this section, a court finds that any of the following are met, the court shall issue an order pursuant to clause (ii):
- (I) The local agency, in violation of subdivision (d), disapproved a housing development project or conditioned its approval in a manner rendering it infeasible for the development of an emergency shelter, or housing for very low, low-, or moderate-income households, including farmworker housing, without making the findings required by this section or without making findings supported by a preponderance of the evidence.
- (II) The local agency, in violation of subdivision (j), disapproved a housing development project complying with applicable, objective general plan and zoning standards and criteria, or imposed a condition that the project be developed at a lower density, without making the findings required by this section or without making findings supported by a preponderance of the evidence.
- (III) (ia) Subject to sub-subclause (ib), the local agency, in violation of subdivision (o), required or attempted to require a housing development project to comply with an ordinance, policy, or standard not adopted and in effect when a preliminary application was submitted.
- (ib) This subclause shall become inoperative on January 1, 2025.
- (k) (ii) (1) If (A) The applicant, a person who would be eligible to apply for residency in the development or emergency shelter, or a housing organization may bring an action to enforce this

section. If, in any action brought to enforce this section, a the court finds that either (i) the local agency, in violation of subdivision (d), disapproved a housing development project or conditioned its approval in a manner rendering it infeasible for the development of an emergency shelter, or housing for very low, low-, or moderate-income households, including farmworker housing, without making the findings required by this section or without making findings supported by a preponderance of the evidence, or (ii) the local agency, in violation of subdivision (i), disapproved a housing development project complying with applicable, objective general plan and zoning standards and criteria, or imposed a condition that the project be developed at a lower density, without making the findings required by this section or without making findings supported by a preponderance of the evidence, the one of the conditions in clause (i) is met, the court shall issue an order or judgment compelling compliance with this section within 60 days, including, but not limited to, an order that the local agency take action on the housing development project or emergency shelter. The court may issue an order or judgment directing the local agency to approve the housing development project or emergency shelter, including approval of all necessary entitlements for construction thereof, if the court finds that the local agency acted in bad faith when it disapproved or conditionally approved the housing development project or emergency shelter in violation of this section. The court shall retain jurisdiction to ensure that its order or judgment is carried out and shall award reasonable attorney's fees and costs of suit to the plaintiff or petitioner, except under extraordinary circumstances in which the court finds that awarding fees would not further the purposes of this section. For purposes of this section, "lower density" includes conditions that have the same effect or impact on the ability of the project to provide housing.

- (B) (i) Upon a determination that the local agency has failed to comply with the order or judgment compelling compliance with this section within 60 days issued pursuant to subparagraph (A), the court shall impose fines on a local agency that has violated this section and require the local agency to deposit any fine levied pursuant to this subdivision into a local housing trust fund. The local agency may elect to instead deposit the fine into the Building Homes and Jobs *Trust* Fund, if Senate Bill 2 of the 2017–18 Regular Session is enacted, or otherwise in the Housing Rehabilitation Loan Fund. The fine shall be in a minimum amount of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) per housing unit in the housing development project on the date the application was deemed or determined to be complete pursuant to Section 65943. In determining the amount of fine to impose, the court shall consider the local agency's progress in attaining its target allocation of the regional housing need pursuant to Section 65584 and any prior violations of this section. Fines shall not be paid out of funds already dedicated to affordable housing, including, but not limited to, Low and Moderate Income Housing Asset Funds, funds dedicated to housing for very low, low-, and moderate-income households, and federal HOME Investment Partnerships Program and Community Development Block Grant Program funds. The local agency shall commit and expend the money in the local housing trust fund within five years for the sole purpose of financing newly constructed housing units affordable to extremely low, very low, or low-income households. After five years, if the funds have not been expended, the money shall revert to the state and be deposited in the Building Homes and Jobs Trust Fund, if Senate Bill 2 of the 2017–18 Regular Session is enacted, or otherwise in the Housing Rehabilitation Loan Fund, for the sole purpose of financing newly constructed housing units affordable to extremely low, very low, or low-income households.
- (ii) If any money derived from a fine imposed pursuant to this subparagraph is deposited in the Housing Rehabilitation Loan Fund, then, notwithstanding Section 50661 of the Health and Safety Code, that money shall be available only upon appropriation by the Legislature.
- (C) If the court determines that its order or judgment has not been carried out within 60 days, the court may issue further orders as provided by law to ensure that the purposes and policies of this

- section are fulfilled, including, but not limited to, an order to vacate the decision of the local agency and to approve the housing development project, in which case the application for the housing development project, as proposed by the applicant at the time the local agency took the initial action determined to be in violation of this section, along with any standard conditions determined by the court to be generally imposed by the local agency on similar projects, shall be deemed to be approved unless the applicant consents to a different decision or action by the local agency.
- (2) For purposes of this subdivision, "housing organization" means a trade or industry group whose local members are primarily engaged in the construction or management of housing units or a nonprofit organization whose mission includes providing or advocating for increased access to housing for low-income households and have filed written or oral comments with the local agency prior to action on the housing development project. A housing organization may only file an action pursuant to this section to challenge the disapproval *or reduction in density* of a housing development *project* by a local agency. A housing organization shall be entitled to reasonable attorney's fees and costs if it is the prevailing party in an action to enforce this section. *Nothing in this section is intended to limit the application of Section 1021.5 of the Code of Civil Procedure.*
- (I) If the court finds that the local agency (1) acted in bad faith when it disapproved or conditionally approved the housing development or emergency shelter in violation of this section and (2) failed to carry out the court's order or judgment within 60 days as described in subdivision (k), the court, in addition to any other remedies provided by this section, shall multiply the fine determined pursuant to subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (k) by a factor of five. For purposes of this section, "bad faith" includes, but is not limited to, an action that is frivolous or otherwise entirely without merit.
- (m) Any action brought to enforce the provisions of this section, regardless of whether the action of the local agency was taken in a proceeding in which by law a hearing is required, shall be brought pursuant to Section 1094.5 of the Code of Civil Procedure, and the local agency shall prepare and certify the record of proceedings in accordance with subdivision (c) of Section 1094.6 of the Code of Civil Procedure no later than 30 days after the petition is served, provided that the cost of preparation of the record shall be borne by the local agency, unless the petitioner elects to prepare the record as provided in subdivision (n) of this section. A petition to enforce the provisions of this section shall be filed and served no later than 90 days from the later of (1) the effective date of a decision of the local agency imposing conditions on, disapproving, or any other final action on a housing development project or (2) the expiration of the time periods specified in subparagraph (B) of paragraph (5) of subdivision (h). Upon entry of the trial court's order, a party may, in order to obtain appellate review of the order, file a petition within 20 days after service upon it of a written notice of the entry of the order, or within such further time not exceeding an additional 20 days as the trial court may for good cause allow, or may appeal the judgment or order of the trial court under Section 904.1 of the Code of Civil Procedure. If the local agency appeals the judgment of the trial court, the local agency shall post a bond, in an amount to be determined by the court, to the benefit of the plaintiff if the plaintiff is the project applicant.
- (n) In any action, the record of the proceedings before the local agency shall be filed as expeditiously as possible and, notwithstanding Section 1094.6 of the Code of Civil Procedure or subdivision (m) of this section, all or part of the record may be prepared (1) by the petitioner with the petition or petitioner's points and authorities, (2) by the respondent with respondent's points and authorities, (3) after payment of costs by the petitioner, or (4) as otherwise directed by the court. If the expense of preparing the record has been borne by the petitioner and the petitioner is the prevailing party, the expense shall be taxable as costs.
- (o) (1) Subject to paragraphs (2), (6), and (7), and subdivision (d) of Section 65941.1, a housing development project shall be subject only to the ordinances, policies, and standards adopted and

in effect when a preliminary application including all of the information required by subdivision (a) of Section 65941.1 was submitted.

- (2) Paragraph (1) shall not prohibit a housing development project from being subject to ordinances, policies, and standards adopted after the preliminary application was submitted pursuant to Section 65941.1 in the following circumstances:
- (A) In the case of a fee, charge, or other monetary exaction, to an increase resulting from an automatic annual adjustment based on an independently published cost index that is referenced in the ordinance or resolution establishing the fee or other monetary exaction.
- (B) A preponderance of the evidence in the record establishes that subjecting the housing development project to an ordinance, policy, or standard beyond those in effect when a preliminary application was submitted is necessary to mitigate or avoid a specific, adverse impact upon the public health or safety, as defined in subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (j), and there is no feasible alternative method to satisfactorily mitigate or avoid the adverse impact.
- (C) Subjecting the housing development project to an ordinance, policy, standard, or any other measure, beyond those in effect when a preliminary application was submitted is necessary to avoid or substantially lessen an impact of the project under the California Environmental Quality Act (Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code).
- (D) The housing development project has not commenced construction within two and one-half years following the date that the project received final approval. For purposes of this subparagraph, "final approval" means that the housing development project has received all necessary approvals to be eligible to apply for, and obtain, a building permit or permits and either of the following is met:
- (i) The expiration of all applicable appeal periods, petition periods, reconsideration periods, or statute of limitations for challenging that final approval without an appeal, petition, request for reconsideration, or legal challenge having been filed.
- (ii) If a challenge is filed, that challenge is fully resolved or settled in favor of the housing development project.
- (E) The housing development project is revised following submittal of a preliminary application pursuant to Section 65941.1 such that the number of residential units or square footage of construction changes by 20 percent or more, exclusive of any increase resulting from the receipt of a density bonus, incentive, concession, waiver, or similar provision. For purposes of this subdivision, "square footage of construction" means the building area, as defined by the California Building Standards Code (Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations).
- (3) This subdivision does not prevent a local agency from subjecting the additional units or square footage of construction that result from project revisions occurring after a preliminary application is submitted pursuant to Section 65941.1 to the ordinances, policies, and standards adopted and in effect when the preliminary application was submitted.
- (4) For purposes of this subdivision, "ordinances, policies, and standards" includes general plan, community plan, specific plan, zoning, design review standards and criteria, subdivision standards and criteria, and any other rules, regulations, requirements, and policies of a local agency, as defined in Section 66000, including those relating to development impact fees, capacity or connection fees or charges, permit or processing fees, and other exactions.

- (5) This subdivision shall not be construed in a manner that would lessen the restrictions imposed on a local agency, or lessen the protections afforded to a housing development project, that are established by any other law, including any other part of this section.
- (6) This subdivision shall not restrict the authority of a public agency or local agency to require mitigation measures to lessen the impacts of a housing development project under the California Environmental Quality Act (Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code).
- (7) With respect to completed residential units for which the project approval process is complete and a certificate of occupancy has been issued, nothing in this subdivision shall limit the application of later enacted ordinances, policies, and standards that regulate the use and occupancy of those residential units, such as ordinances relating to rental housing inspection, rent stabilization, restrictions on short-term renting, and business licensing requirements for owners of rental housing.
- (8) This subdivision shall become inoperative on January 1, 2025.
- (p) (1) This section shall apply to a housing development project regardless of whether the local agency's review of the project is a ministerial or use by right decision, or a discretionary approval.
- (2) Nothing in this section is intended to prohibit a local government from requiring a conditional use permit for a housing development project to the extent the conditional use permit meets the requirements of this section.
- (a) This section shall be known, and may be cited, as the Housing Accountability Act.

SEC. 4.

- (a) Section 3.1 of this bill incorporates amendments to Section 65589.5 of the Government Code proposed by both this bill and Senate Bill 330. That section of this bill shall only become operative if (1) both bills are enacted and become effective on or before January 1, 2020, (2) each bill amends Section 65589.5 of the Government Code, and (3) Senate Bill 592 is not enacted or as enacted does not amend that section, and (4) this bill is enacted after Senate Bill 330, in which case Sections 3, 3.2, and 3.3 of this bill shall not become operative.
- (b) Section 3.2 of this bill incorporates amendments to Section 65589.5 of the Government Code proposed by both this bill and Senate Bill 592. That section of this bill shall only become operative if (1) both bills are enacted and become effective on or before January 1, 2020, (2) each bill amends Section 65589.5 of the Government Code, (3) Senate Bill 330 is not enacted or as enacted does not amend that section, and (4) this bill is enacted after Senate Bill 592 in which case Sections 3, 3.1, and 3.3 of this bill shall not become operative.
- (c) Section 3.3 of this bill incorporates amendments to Section 65589.5 of the Government Code proposed by this bill, Senate Bill 330, and Senate Bill 592. That section of this bill shall only become operative if (1) all three bills are enacted and become effective on or before January 1, 2020, (2) all three bills amend Section 65589.5 of the Government Code, and (3) this bill is enacted after Senate Bill 330 and Senate Bill 592, in which case Sections 3, 3.1, and 3.2 of this bill shall not become operative.

SB 34, Chapter 837 Cannabis: donations.

Effective Date 1/1/2020

SECTION 1.

This act shall be known as the Dennis Peron and Brownie Mary Act.

SEC. 2.

The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

- (a) This act intends to regulate the distribution of donated medicinal cannabis and medicinal cannabis products by retailers and compassionate care programs, which were driven to the black market after the legalization of adult-use cannabis.
- (b) Historically, compassionate care programs donated medicinal cannabis and medicinal cannabis products to patients with a valid physician's recommendation who need these products to treat their debilitating symptoms and heal.
- (c) It is vital for the health and safety of vulnerable and low-income medicinal cannabis patients to keep them off the black market by allowing these compassionate care donations.

SEC. 3.

Section 26001 of the Business and Professions Code, as amended by Section 19 of Chapter 92 of the Statutes of 2018, is amended to read:

26001.

For purposes of this division, the following definitions apply:

- (a) "A-license" means a state license issued under this division for cannabis or cannabis products that are intended for adults who are 21 years of age and older and who do not possess a physician's recommendation.
- (b) "A-licensee" means any person holding a license under this division for cannabis or cannabis products that are intended for adults who are 21 years of age and older and who do not possess a physician's recommendation.
- (c) "Applicant" means an owner applying for a state license pursuant to this division.
- (d) "Batch" means a specific quantity of homogeneous cannabis or cannabis product that is one of the following types:
- (1) Harvest batch. "Harvest batch" means a specifically identified quantity of dried flower or trim, leaves, and other cannabis plant matter that is uniform in strain, harvested at the same time, and, if applicable, cultivated using the same pesticides and other agricultural chemicals, and harvested at the same time.
- (2) Manufactured cannabis batch. "Manufactured cannabis batch" means either of the following:
- (A) An amount of cannabis concentrate or extract that is produced in one production cycle using the same extraction methods and standard operating procedures.
- (B) An amount of a type of manufactured cannabis produced in one production cycle using the same formulation and standard operating procedures.
- (e) "Bureau" means the Bureau of Cannabis Control within the Department of Consumer Affairs, formerly named the Bureau of Marijuana Control, the Bureau of Medical Cannabis Regulation, and the Bureau of Medical Marijuana Regulation.
- (f) "Cannabis" means all parts of the plant Cannabis sativa Linnaeus, Cannabis indica, or Cannabis ruderalis, whether growing or not; the seeds thereof; the resin, whether crude or purified, extracted

from any part of the plant; and every compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture, or preparation of the plant, its seeds, or resin. "Cannabis" also means the separated resin, whether crude or purified, obtained from cannabis. "Cannabis" does not include the mature stalks of the plant, fiber produced from the stalks, oil or cake made from the seeds of the plant, any other compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture, or preparation of the mature stalks (except the resin extracted therefrom), fiber, oil, or cake, or the sterilized seed of the plant which is incapable of germination. For the purpose of this division, "cannabis" does not mean "industrial hemp" as defined by Section 11018.5 of the Health and Safety Code.

- (g) "Cannabis accessories" has the same meaning as in Section 11018.2 of the Health and Safety Code.
- (h) "Cannabis concentrate" means cannabis that has undergone a process to concentrate one or more active cannabinoids, thereby increasing the product's potency. Resin from granular trichomes from a cannabis plant is a concentrate for purposes of this division. A cannabis concentrate is not considered food, as defined by Section 109935 of the Health and Safety Code, or a drug, as defined by Section 109925 of the Health and Safety Code.
- (i) "Cannabis products" has the same meaning as in Section 11018.1 of the Health and Safety Code.
- (j) "Child resistant" means designed or constructed to be significantly difficult for children under five years of age to open, and not difficult for normal adults to use properly.
- (k) "Commercial cannabis activity" includes the cultivation, possession, manufacture, distribution, processing, storing, laboratory testing, packaging, labeling, transportation, delivery, or sale of cannabis and cannabis products as provided for in this division.
- (I) "Cultivation" means any activity involving the planting, growing, harvesting, drying, curing, grading, or trimming of cannabis.
- (m) "Cultivation site" means a location where cannabis is planted, grown, harvested, dried, cured, graded, or trimmed, or a location where any combination of those activities occurs.
- (n) "Customer" means a natural person 21 years of age or older or a natural person 18 years of age or older who possesses a physician's recommendation, or a primary caregiver.
- (o) "Day care center" has the same meaning as in Section 1596.76 of the Health and Safety Code.
- (p) "Delivery" means the commercial transfer of cannabis or cannabis products to a customer. "Delivery" also includes the use by a retailer of any technology platform.
- (q) "Director" means the Director of Consumer Affairs.
- (r) "Distribution" means the procurement, sale, and transport of cannabis and cannabis products between licensees.
- (s) "Dried flower" means all dead cannabis that has been harvested, dried, cured, or otherwise processed, excluding leaves and stems.
- (t) "Edible cannabis product" means *a* cannabis product that is intended to be used, in whole or in part, for human consumption, including, but not limited to, chewing gum, but excluding products set forth in Division 15 (commencing with Section 32501) of the Food and Agricultural Code. An edible cannabis product is not considered food, as defined by Section 109935 of the Health and Safety Code, or a drug, as defined by Section 109925 of the Health and Safety Code.

- (u) "Fund" means the Cannabis Control Fund established pursuant to Section 26210.
- (v) "Kind" means applicable type or designation regarding a particular cannabis variant or cannabis product type, including, but not limited to, strain name or other grower trademark, or growing area designation.
- (w) "Labeling" means any label or other written, printed, or graphic matter upon a cannabis product, upon its container or wrapper, or that accompanies any cannabis product.
- (x) "Labor peace agreement" means an agreement between a licensee and any bona fide labor organization that, at a minimum, protects the state's proprietary interests by prohibiting labor organizations and members from engaging in picketing, work stoppages, boycotts, and any other economic interference with the applicant's business. This agreement means that the applicant has agreed not to disrupt efforts by the bona fide labor organization to communicate with, and attempt to organize and represent, the applicant's employees. The agreement shall provide a bona fide labor organization access at reasonable times to areas in which the applicant's employees work, for the purpose of meeting with employees to discuss their right to representation, employment rights under state law, and terms and conditions of employment. This type of agreement shall not mandate a particular method of election or certification of the bona fide labor organization.
- (y) "License" means a state license issued under this division, and includes both an A-license and an M-license, as well as a testing laboratory license.
- (z) "Licensee" means any person holding a license under this division, regardless of whether the license held is an A-license or an M-license, and includes the holder of a testing laboratory license.
- (aa) "Licensing authority" means the state agency responsible for the issuance, renewal, or reinstatement of the license, or the state agency authorized to take disciplinary action against the licensee.
- (ab) "Live plants" means living cannabis flowers and plants, including seeds, immature plants, and vegetative stage plants.
- (ac) "Local jurisdiction" means a city, county, or city and county.
- (ad) "Lot" means a batch or a specifically identified portion of a batch.
- (ae) "M-license" means a state license issued under this division for commercial cannabis activity involving medicinal cannabis.
- (af) "M-licensee" means any person holding a license under this division for commercial cannabis activity involving medicinal cannabis.
- (ag) "Manufacture" means to compound, blend, extract, infuse, or otherwise make or prepare a cannabis product.
- (ah) "Manufacturer" means a licensee that conducts the production, preparation, propagation, or compounding of cannabis or cannabis products either directly or indirectly or by extraction methods, or independently by means of chemical synthesis, or by a combination of extraction and chemical synthesis at a fixed location that packages or repackages cannabis or cannabis products or labels or relabels its container.
- (ai) (1) "Medicinal cannabis" or "medicinal cannabis product" means cannabis or a cannabis product, respectively, intended to be sold *or donated* for use pursuant to the Compassionate Use Act of 1996 (Proposition 215), found at *in* Section 11362.5 of the Health and Safety Code, by a medicinal cannabis patient in California who possesses a physician's

recommendation. recommendation, or in compliance with any compassionate use, equity, or other similar program administered by a local jurisdiction.

- (2) The amendments made to this subdivision by the act adding this paragraph shall become operative upon completion of the necessary changes to the track and trace program in order to implement the act adding this paragraph, as determined by the Department of Food and Agriculture, or on March 1, 2020, whichever occurs first.
- (aj) "Nursery" means a licensee that produces only clones, immature plants, seeds, and other agricultural products used specifically for the propagation and cultivation of cannabis.
- (ak) "Operation" means any act for which licensure is required under the provisions of this division, or any commercial transfer of cannabis or cannabis products.
- (al) "Owner" means any of the following:
- (1) A person with an aggregate ownership interest of 20 percent or more in the person applying for a license or a licensee, unless the interest is solely a security, lien, or encumbrance.
- (2) The chief executive officer of a nonprofit or other entity.
- (3) A member of the board of directors of a nonprofit.
- (4) An individual who will be participating in the direction, control, or management of the person applying for a license.
- (am) "Package" means any container or receptacle used for holding cannabis or cannabis products.
- (an) "Person" includes any individual, firm, partnership, joint venture, association, corporation, limited liability company, estate, trust, business trust, receiver, syndicate, or any other group or combination acting as a unit, and the plural as well as the singular.
- (ao) "Physician's recommendation" means a recommendation by a physician and surgeon that a patient use cannabis provided in accordance with the Compassionate Use Act of 1996 (Proposition 215), found at Section 11362.5 of the Health and Safety Code.
- (ap) "Premises" means the designated structure or structures and land specified in the application that is owned, leased, or otherwise held under the control of the applicant or licensee where the commercial cannabis activity will be or is conducted. The premises shall be a contiguous area and shall only be occupied by one licensee.
- (aq) "Primary caregiver" has the same meaning as in Section 11362.7 of the Health and Safety Code.
- (ar) "Purchaser" means the customer who is engaged in a transaction with a licensee for purposes of obtaining cannabis or cannabis products.
- (as) "Sell," "sale," and "to sell" include any transaction whereby, for any consideration, title to cannabis or cannabis products is transferred from one person to another, and includes the delivery of cannabis or cannabis products pursuant to an order placed for the purchase of the same and soliciting or receiving an order for the same, but does not include the return of cannabis or cannabis products by a licensee to the licensee from whom the cannabis or cannabis product was purchased.
- (at) "Testing laboratory" means a laboratory, facility, or entity in the state that offers or performs tests of cannabis or cannabis products and that is both of the following:

- (1) Accredited by an accrediting body that is independent from all other persons involved in commercial cannabis activity in the state.
- (2) Licensed by the bureau.
- (au) "Unique identifier" means an alphanumeric code or designation used for reference to a specific plant on a licensed premises and any cannabis or cannabis product derived or manufactured from that plant.
- (av) "Youth center" has the same meaning as in Section 11353.1 of the Health and Safety Code.

SEC. 3.5.

Section 26001 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

26001.

For purposes of this division, the following definitions apply:

- (a) "A-license" means a state license issued under this division for cannabis or cannabis products that are intended for adults who are 21 years of age and older and who do not possess a physician's recommendation.
- (b) "A-licensee" means any person holding a license under this division for cannabis or cannabis products that are intended for adults who are 21 years of age and older and who do not possess a physician's recommendation.
- (c) "Applicant" means an owner applying for a state license pursuant to this division.
- (d) "Batch" means a specific quantity of homogeneous cannabis or cannabis product that is one of the following types:
- 1) Harvest batch. "Harvest batch" means a specifically identified quantity of dried flower or trim, leaves, and other cannabis plant matter that is uniform in strain, harvested at the same time, and, if applicable, cultivated using the same pesticides and other agricultural chemicals, and harvested at the same time.
- (2) Manufactured cannabis batch, "Manufactured cannabis batch" means either of the following:
- (A) An amount of cannabis concentrate or extract that is produced in one production cycle using the same extraction methods and standard operating procedures.
- (B) An amount of a type of manufactured cannabis produced in one production cycle using the same formulation and standard operating procedures.
- (e) "Bureau" means the Bureau of Cannabis Control within the Department of Consumer Affairs, formerly named the Bureau of Marijuana Control, the Bureau of Medical Cannabis Regulation, and the Bureau of Medical Marijuana Regulation.
- (f) "Cannabis" means all parts of the plant Cannabis sativa Linnaeus, Cannabis indica, or Cannabis ruderalis, whether growing or not; the seeds thereof; the resin, whether crude or purified, extracted from any part of the plant; and every compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture, or preparation of the plant, its seeds, or resin. "Cannabis" also means the separated resin, whether crude or purified, obtained from cannabis. "Cannabis" does not include the mature stalks of the plant, fiber produced from the stalks, oil or cake made from the seeds of the plant, any other compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture, or preparation of the mature stalks (except the resin extracted therefrom), fiber, oil, or cake, or the sterilized seed of the plant which is incapable

- of germination. For the purpose of this division, "cannabis" does not mean "industrial hemp" as defined by Section 11018.5 of the Health and Safety Code.
- (g) "Cannabis accessories" has the same meaning as in Section 11018.2 of the Health and Safety Code.
- (h) "Cannabis concentrate" means cannabis that has undergone a process to concentrate one or more active cannabinoids, thereby increasing the product's potency. Resin from granular trichomes from a cannabis plant is a concentrate for purposes of this division. A cannabis concentrate is not considered food, as defined by Section 109935 of the Health and Safety Code, or a drug, as defined by Section 109925 of the Health and Safety Code.
- (i) "Cannabis products" has the same meaning as in Section 11018.1 of the Health and Safety Code.
- (j) "Child resistant" means designed or constructed to be significantly difficult for children under five years of age to open, and not difficult for normal adults to use properly.
- (k) "Commercial cannabis activity" includes the cultivation, possession, manufacture, distribution, processing, storing, laboratory testing, packaging, labeling, transportation, delivery, or sale of cannabis and cannabis products as provided for in this division.
- (I) "Cultivation" means any activity involving the planting, growing, harvesting, drying, curing, grading, or trimming of cannabis.
- (m) "Cultivation site" means a location where cannabis is planted, grown, harvested, dried, cured, graded, or trimmed, or a location where any combination of those activities occurs.
- (n) "Customer" means a natural person 21 years of age or older or a natural person 18 years of age or older who possesses a physician's recommendation, or a primary caregiver.
- (o) "Day care center" has the same meaning as in Section 1596.76 of the Health and Safety Code.
- (p) "Delivery" means the commercial transfer of cannabis or cannabis products to a customer. "Delivery" also includes the use by a retailer of any technology platform.
- (g) "Director" means the Director of Consumer Affairs.
- (r) "Distribution" means the procurement, sale, and transport of cannabis and cannabis products between licensees.
- (s) "Dried flower" means all dead cannabis that has been harvested, dried, cured, or otherwise processed, excluding leaves and stems.
- (t) "Edible cannabis product" means *a* cannabis product that is intended to be used, in whole or in part, for human consumption, including, but not limited to, chewing gum, but excluding products set forth in Division 15 (commencing with Section 32501) of the Food and Agricultural Code. An edible cannabis product is not considered food, as defined by Section 109935 of the Health and Safety Code, or a drug, as defined by Section 109925 of the Health and Safety Code.
- (u) "Fund" means the Cannabis Control Fund established pursuant to Section 26210.
- (v) "Kind" means applicable type or designation regarding a particular cannabis variant, origin, or cannabis product type, including, but not limited to, strain name or other grower- name, trademark, or growing production area designation.

- (w) "Labeling" means any label or other written, printed, or graphic matter upon a cannabis product, upon its container or wrapper, or that accompanies any cannabis product.
- (x) "Labor peace agreement" means an agreement between a licensee and any bona fide labor organization that, at a minimum, protects the state's proprietary interests by prohibiting labor organizations and members from engaging in picketing, work stoppages, boycotts, and any other economic interference with the applicant's business. This agreement means that the applicant has agreed not to disrupt efforts by the bona fide labor organization to communicate with, and attempt to organize and represent, the applicant's employees. The agreement shall provide a bona fide labor organization access at reasonable times to areas in which the applicant's employees work, for the purpose of meeting with employees to discuss their right to representation, employment rights under state law, and terms and conditions of employment. This type of agreement shall not mandate a particular method of election or certification of the bona fide labor organization.
- (y) "License" means a state license issued under this division, and includes both an A-license and an M-license, as well as a testing laboratory license.
- (z) "Licensee" means any person holding a license under this division, regardless of whether the license held is an A-license or an M-license, and includes the holder of a testing laboratory license.
- (aa) "Licensing authority" means the state agency responsible for the issuance, renewal, or reinstatement of the license, or the state agency authorized to take disciplinary action against the licensee.
- (ab) "Live plants" means living cannabis flowers and plants, including seeds, immature plants, and vegetative stage plants.
- (ac) "Local jurisdiction" means a city, county, or city and county.
- (ad) "Lot" means a batch or a specifically identified portion of a batch.
- (ae) "M-license" means a state license issued under this division for commercial cannabis activity involving medicinal cannabis.
- (af) "M-licensee" means any person holding a license under this division for commercial cannabis activity involving medicinal cannabis.
- (ag) "Manufacture" means to compound, blend, extract, infuse, or otherwise make or prepare a cannabis product.
- (ah) "Manufacturer" means a licensee that conducts the production, preparation, propagation, or compounding of cannabis or cannabis products either directly or indirectly or by extraction methods, or independently by means of chemical synthesis, or by a combination of extraction and chemical synthesis at a fixed location that packages or repackages cannabis or cannabis products or labels or relabels its container.
- (ai) (1) "Medicinal cannabis" or "medicinal cannabis product" means cannabis or a cannabis product, respectively, intended to be sold *or donated* for use pursuant to the Compassionate Use Act of 1996 (Proposition 215), found at in Section 11362.5 of the Health and Safety Code, by a medicinal cannabis patient in California who possesses a physician's recommendation, or in compliance with any compassionate use, equity, or other similar program administered by a local jurisdiction.
- (2) The amendments made to this subdivision by the act adding this paragraph shall become operative upon completion of the necessary changes to the track and trace program in order to

implement the act adding this paragraph, as determined by the Department of Food and Agriculture, or on March 1, 2020, whichever occurs first.

- (aj) "Nursery" means a licensee that produces only clones, immature plants, seeds, and other agricultural products used specifically for the propagation and cultivation of cannabis.
- (ak) "Operation" means any act for which licensure is required under the provisions of this division, or any commercial transfer of cannabis or cannabis products.
- (al) "Owner" means any of the following:
- (1) A person with an aggregate ownership interest of 20 percent or more in the person applying for a license or a licensee, unless the interest is solely a security, lien, or encumbrance.
- (2) The chief executive officer of a nonprofit or other entity.
- (3) A member of the board of directors of a nonprofit.
- (4) An individual who will be participating in the direction, control, or management of the person applying for a license.
- (am) "Package" means any container or receptacle used for holding cannabis or cannabis products.
- (an) "Person" includes any individual, firm, partnership, joint venture, association, corporation, limited liability company, estate, trust, business trust, receiver, syndicate, or any other group or combination acting as a unit, and the plural as well as the singular.
- (ao) "Physician's recommendation" means a recommendation by a physician and surgeon that a patient use cannabis provided in accordance with the Compassionate Use Act of 1996 (Proposition 215), found at Section 11362.5 of the Health and Safety Code.
- (ap) "Premises" means the designated structure or structures and land specified in the application that is owned, leased, or otherwise held under the control of the applicant or licensee where the commercial cannabis activity will be or is conducted. The premises shall be a contiguous area and shall only be occupied by one licensee.
- (aq) "Primary caregiver" has the same meaning as in Section 11362.7 of the Health and Safety Code.
- (ar) "Purchaser" means the customer who is engaged in a transaction with a licensee for purposes of obtaining cannabis or cannabis products.
- (as) "Sell," "sale," and "to sell" include any transaction whereby, for any consideration, title to cannabis or cannabis products is transferred from one person to another, and includes the delivery of cannabis or cannabis products pursuant to an order placed for the purchase of the same and soliciting or receiving an order for the same, but does not include the return of cannabis or cannabis products by a licensee to the licensee from whom the cannabis or cannabis product was purchased.
- (at) "Testing laboratory" means a laboratory, facility, or entity in the state that offers or performs tests of cannabis or cannabis products and that is both of the following:
- (1) Accredited by an accrediting body that is independent from all other persons involved in commercial cannabis activity in the state.
- (2) Licensed by the bureau.

- (au) "Unique identifier" means an alphanumeric code or designation used for reference to a specific plant on a licensed premises and any cannabis or cannabis product derived or manufactured from that plant.
- (av) "Youth center" has the same meaning as in Section 11353.1 of the Health and Safety Code.

SEC. 4.

Section 26071 is added to the Business and Professions Code, to read:

- (a) To provide access to medicinal cannabis patients who have difficulty accessing cannabis or cannabis products, a licensee that is authorized to make retail sales may provide free cannabis or cannabis products if all of the following criteria are met:
- (1) Free cannabis or cannabis products are provided only to a medicinal cannabis patient or the patient's primary caregiver. For purposes of this section, "medicinal cannabis patient" includes a qualified patient, as defined under Section 11362.7 of the Health and Safety Code, or a person in possession of a valid identification card issued under Section 11362.71 of the Health and Safety Code.
- (2) (A) A licensed retailer providing medicinal cannabis or medicinal cannabis products pursuant to this section to a qualified patient, as defined under Section 11362.7 of the Health and Safety Code, that possesses a valid physician's recommendation, shall ensure that the physician is in good standing by following the procedures described in subparagraph (B) before providing the qualified patient with any medicinal cannabis or medicinal cannabis products that a cultivator certified were for donation pursuant to Section 34012.1 of the Revenue and Taxation Code or that are exempt from the use tax pursuant to Section 6414 of the Revenue and Taxation Code.
- (B) In order to verify the physician's recommendation, the licensed retailer shall do all of the following:
- (i) Verify with the Medical Board of California, the Osteopathic Medical Board of California, and the California Board of Podiatric Medicine that the attending physician has a license in good standing to practice medicine or osteopathy in the state.
- (ii) Keep a copy of the patient's or primary caregiver's driver's license or other government issued identification.
- (3) Except as provided for under Section 34012.1 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, the cannabis or cannabis products comply with all applicable requirements for cultivation, manufacture, distribution, processing, storing, laboratory testing, packaging, labeling, transportation, delivery, or donation under this division.
- (4) A licensee intending to donate the cannabis or cannabis products shall designate the cannabis or cannabis products for donation in the track and trace system. If a cultivator certified that the cannabis or cannabis products are designated for donation to medicinal cannabis patients pursuant to Section 34012.1 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, a licensee shall not change that designation pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 34012.1 of the Revenue and Taxation Code.
- (5) Before being provided to the patient or primary caregiver, the cannabis or cannabis products have been properly recorded in the track and trace system as belonging to the retailer.
- (6) The cannabis or cannabis products provided to a medicinal cannabis patient or the primary caregiver of the patient in a single day shall not exceed the possession limits prescribed by Section 11362.77 of the Health and Safety Code.

- (7) The event shall be properly recorded in the retailer's inventory records and the track and trace system. The retailer shall include in its inventory records for each medicinal cannabis patient the number of an identification card issued pursuant to Article 2.5 (commencing with Section 11362.7) of Chapter 6 of Division 10 of the Health and Safety Code or a copy of the physician's recommendation for no less than four years. If the medicinal cannabis patient is a qualified patient, as defined under Section 11362.7 of the Health and Safety Code, that possesses a valid physician's recommendation, the retailer shall certify in writing that they verified the recommendation pursuant to paragraph (2) and shall keep a copy of that certification for no less than seven years.
- (8) A licensed retailer that donates medicinal cannabis or medicinal cannabis products shall note the donation in their sales invoice or receipt pursuant to Section 26161 of the Business and Professions Code.
- (b) In addition to the provision of free cannabis or cannabis products in subdivision (a), a licensee that is authorized to make retail sales may donate cannabis or cannabis products and the use of equipment in compliance with any compassionate use, equity, or other similar program administered by a local jurisdiction.
- (c) A licensee that is authorized to make retail sales may contract with an individual or organization to coordinate the provision of free medicinal cannabis or medicinal cannabis products on the retailer's premises. Licensed retailers that are solely authorized to engage in retail sales by means of delivery may provide free medicinal cannabis or medicinal cannabis products by means of delivery.
- (d) This section shall become operative upon completion of the necessary changes to the track and trace program in order to implement the act adding this section, as determined by the Department of Food and Agriculture, or on March 1, 2020, whichever occurs first.

SEC. 5.

Section 26153 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

26153

A licensee shall not give away any amount of cannabis or cannabis products, or any cannabis accessories, as part of a business promotion or other commercial activity. For purposes of this section, the donation of cannabis or cannabis products by a licensee to a patient or the primary caregiver of a patient, pursuant to Section 26071, shall not be considered a business promotion or other commercial activity.

SEC. 6.

Section 26161 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

- (a) Every sale or transport of cannabis or cannabis products from one licensee to another licensee must be recorded on a sales invoice or receipt. Sales invoices and receipts may be maintained electronically and must be filed in such manner as to be readily accessible for examination by employees of the licensing authorities or California Department of Tax and Fee Administration and shall not be commingled with invoices covering other commodities.
- (b) Each sales invoice required by subdivision (a) shall include the name and address of the seller and shall include the following information:
- (1) Name and address of the purchaser.

- (2) Date of sale and invoice number.
- (3) Kind, quantity, size, and capacity of packages of cannabis or cannabis products sold.
- (4) The cost to the purchaser, together with any discount applied to the price as shown on the invoice.
- (5) The place from which transport of the cannabis or cannabis product was made unless transport was made from the premises of the licensee.
- (6) Whether the cannabis or cannabis products are designated for donation to a medicinal cannabis patient.
- (6) (7) Any other information specified by the licensing authority.

SEC. 7.

Section 26162.5 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

26162.5.

- (a) Identification cards issued pursuant to Section 11362.71 of the Health and Safety Code are hereby deemed "medical information" within the meaning of the Confidentiality of Medical Information Act (Part 2.6 (commencing with Section 56) of Division 1 of the Civil Code) and shall not be disclosed by a licensee except as (1) necessary for the State of California or any city, county, or city and county to perform official duties pursuant to this chapter, *Part 1 (commencing with Section 6001) and Part 14.5 (commencing with Section 34010) of Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code*, or a local ordinance, or (2) to a contractor providing software services to a licensee for the purpose of conducting a transaction or verifying eligibility, provided that the contractor does not use or retain medical information for any other purpose or share information with any party other than the contracting licensee.
- (b) Information contained in a physician's recommendation issued in accordance with Article 25 (commencing with Section 2525) of Chapter 5 of Division 2 and received by a licensee, including, but not limited to, the name, address, or social security number of the patient, the patient's medical condition, or the name of the patient's primary caregiver is hereby deemed "medical information" within the meaning of the Confidentiality of Medical Information Act (Part 2.6 (commencing with Section 56) of Division 1 of the Civil Code) and shall not be disclosed by a licensee except as (1) necessary for the State of California or any city, county, or city and county to perform official duties pursuant to this chapter, *Part 1 (commencing with Section 6001) and Part 14.5 (commencing with Section 34010) of Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code*, or a local ordinance, or (2) to a contractor providing software services to a licensee for the purpose of conducting a transaction or verifying eligibility, provided that the contractor does not use or retain medical information for any other purpose or share information with any party other than the contracting licensee.

SEC. 8.

Section 6414 is added to the Revenue and Taxation Code, to read: 6414.

- (a) The storage, use, or other consumption in this state of medicinal cannabis or medicinal cannabis product shall be exempt from the use tax in either of the following circumstances:
- (1) The medicinal cannabis or medicinal cannabis product is donated by a cannabis retailer licensed under Division 10 (commencing with Section 26000) of the Business and Professions Code to a medicinal cannabis patient.

- (2) The medicinal cannabis or medicinal cannabis product is donated by a person licensed under Division 10 (commencing with Section 26000) of the Business and Professions Code to a cannabis retailer for subsequent donation to a medicinal cannabis patient.
- (b) (1) The exemption specified in subdivision (a) shall apply only if the cannabis retailer certifies in writing to the licensee that donates the medicinal cannabis or medicinal cannabis product, in such a form as the department may prescribe, that the medicinal cannabis and medicinal cannabis product will be used in a manner and for a purpose specified in subdivision (a). The licensee that donates the medicinal cannabis or medicinal cannabis product shall keep a copy of the certification for no less than seven years. The certification in writing shall relieve the licensee that donates the medicinal cannabis or medicinal cannabis product of liability for use tax only if it is taken in good faith.
- (2) If a licensee uses the donated medicinal cannabis or medicinal cannabis product in some manner or for some purpose other than those specified in subdivision (a), the licensee shall be liable for the payment of use tax, the measure of tax to the licensee shall be deemed that licensee's purchase price for similar product, and the licensee shall be subject to having their license suspended by the appropriate licensing authority pursuant to Section 26031 of the Business and Professions Code.
- (c) "Medicinal cannabis" and "medicinal cannabis product" shall have the same meaning as those terms are defined in Section 26001 of the Business and Professions Code.
- (d) "Cannabis retailer" shall have the same meaning as that term is defined in Section 34010.
- (e) "Medicinal cannabis patient" shall mean a qualified patient, as defined in Section 11362.7 of the Health and Safety Code, who possesses a physician's recommendation that complies with Article 25 (commencing with Section 2525) of Chapter 5 of Division 2 of the Business and Professions Code, or a qualified patient or primary caregiver for a qualified patient issued a valid identification card pursuant to Section 11362.71 of the Health and Safety Code.
- (f) (1) This section shall become operative upon completion of the necessary changes to the track and trace program in order to implement the act adding this section, as determined by the Department of Food and Agriculture, or on March 1, 2020, whichever occurs first.
- (2) This section shall remain in effect only until five years after it becomes operative, and as of that date is repealed.

SEC. 9.

Section 34010 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, as amended by Section 200 of Chapter 92 of the Statutes of 2018, is amended to read:

34010.

For purposes of this part:

- (a) "Arm's length transaction" shall mean a sale entered into in good faith and for valuable consideration that reflects the fair market value in the open market between two informed and willing parties, neither under any compulsion to participate in the transaction.
- (b) "Average market price" shall mean: mean both of the following:
- (1) In an arm's length transaction, the average retail price determined by the wholesale cost of the cannabis or cannabis products sold or transferred to a cannabis retailer, plus a mark-up, as determined by the department on a biannual basis in six-month intervals.

- (2) In a nonarm's length transaction, the cannabis retailer's gross receipts from the retail sale of the cannabis or cannabis products.
- (c) "Department" means the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration or its successor agency.
- (d) "Bureau" means the Bureau of Cannabis Control within the Department of Consumer Affairs.
- (e) "Tax Fund" means the California Cannabis Tax Fund created by Section 34018.
- (f) "Cannabis" has the same meaning as set forth in Section 11018 of the Health and Safety Code and shall also mean medicinal cannabis.
- (g) "Cannabis products" has the same meaning as set forth in Section 11018.1 of the Health and Safety Code and shall also mean medicinal concentrates and medicinal cannabis products.
- (h) "Cannabis flowers" means the dried flowers of the cannabis plant as defined by the board.
- (i) "Cannabis leaves" means all parts of the cannabis plant other than cannabis flowers that are sold or consumed.
- (j) "Cannabis retailer" means a person required to be licensed as a retailer, *non-storefront retailer*, microbusiness, or nonprofit pursuant to Division 10 (commencing with Section 26000) of the Business and Professions Code.
- (k) "Cultivator" means all persons required to be licensed to cultivate cannabis pursuant to Division 10 (commencing with Section 26000) of the Business and Professions Code.
- (I) "Distributor" means a person required to be licensed as a distributor pursuant to Division 10 (commencing with Section 26000) of the Business and Professions Code.
- (m) "Enters the commercial market" means cannabis or cannabis products, products, except for immature cannabis plants and seeds, that complete and comply with a quality assurance review and testing, as described in Section 26110 of the Business and Professions Code.
- (n) "Gross receipts" has the same meaning as set forth in Section 6012.
- (o) "Microbusiness" has the same meaning as set forth in paragraph (3) of subdivision (a) of Section 26070 of the Business and Professions Code.
- (p) "Nonprofit" has the same meaning as set forth in Section 26070.5 of the Business and Professions Code.
- (q) "Person" has the same meaning as set forth in Section 6005.
- (r) "Retail sale" has the same meaning as set forth in Section 6007.
- (s) "Sale" and "purchase" mean any change of title or possession, exchange, or barter, conditional or otherwise, in any manner or by any means whatsoever, for consideration.
- (t) "Transfer" means to grant, convey, hand over, assign, sell, exchange, or barter, in any manner or by any means, with or without consideration.
- (u) "Unprocessed cannabis" includes cannabis flowers, cannabis leaves, or other categories of harvested cannabis, categories for unprocessed or frozen cannabis or immature plants, or cannabis that is shipped directly to manufacturers.

- (v) "Manufacturer" means a person required to be licensed as a manufacturer pursuant to Division 10 (commencing with Section 26000) of the Business and Professions Code.
- (w) "Medicinal cannabis patient" shall mean a qualified patient, as defined in Section 11362.7 of the Health and Safety Code, who possesses a physician's recommendation that complies with Article 25 (commencing with Section 2525) of Chapter 5 of Division 2 of the Business and Professions Code, or a qualified patient or primary caregiver for a qualified patient issued a valid identification card pursuant to Section 11362.71 of the Health and Safety Code.
- (x) "Designated for donation" shall mean medicinal cannabis donated by a cultivator to a cannabis retailer for subsequent donation to a medicinal cannabis patient pursuant to Section 26071 of the Business and Professions Code.

SEC. 10.

Section 34011 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, as amended by Section 201 of Chapter 92 of the Statutes of 2018, is amended to read:

- (a) (1) Effective January 1, 2018, a cannabis excise tax shall be imposed upon purchasers of cannabis or cannabis products sold in this state at the rate of 15 percent of the average market price of any retail sale by a cannabis retailer. A purchaser's liability for the cannabis excise tax is not extinguished until the cannabis excise tax has been paid to this state except that an invoice, receipt, or other document from a cannabis retailer given to the purchaser pursuant to this subdivision is sufficient to relieve the purchaser from further liability for the tax to which the invoice, receipt, or other document refers.
- (2) Each cannabis retailer shall provide a purchaser with an invoice, receipt, or other document that includes a statement that reads: "The cannabis excise taxes are included in the total amount of this invoice."
- (3) The department may prescribe other means to display the cannabis excise tax on an invoice, receipt, or other document from a cannabis retailer given to the purchaser.
- (b) (1) A distributor in an arm's length transaction shall collect the cannabis excise tax from the cannabis retailer on or before 90 days after the sale or transfer of cannabis or cannabis product to the cannabis retailer. A distributor in a nonarm's length transaction shall collect the cannabis excise tax from the cannabis retailer on or before 90 days after the sale or transfer of cannabis or cannabis product to the cannabis retailer, or at the time of retail sale by the cannabis retailer, whichever is earlier. A distributor shall report and remit the cannabis excise tax to the department pursuant to Section 34015. A cannabis retailer shall be responsible for collecting the cannabis excise tax from the purchaser and remitting the cannabis excise tax to the distributor in accordance with rules and procedures established under law and any regulations adopted by the department.
- (2) A distributor shall provide an invoice, receipt, or other similar document to the cannabis retailer that identifies the licensee receiving the product, the distributor from which the product originates, including the associated unique identifier, the amount of cannabis excise tax, and any other information deemed necessary by the department. The department may authorize other forms of documentation under this paragraph.
- (c) The excise tax imposed by this section shall be in addition to the sales and use tax imposed by the state and local governments.

- (d) Gross receipts from the sale of cannabis or cannabis products for purposes of assessing the sales and use taxes under Part 1 (commencing with Section 6001) shall include the tax levied pursuant to this section.
- (e) Cannabis or cannabis products shall not be sold to a purchaser unless the excise tax required by law has been paid by the purchaser at the time of sale.
- (f) The sales and use taxes imposed by Part 1 (commencing with Section 6001) shall not apply to retail sales of medicinal cannabis, medicinal cannabis concentrate, edible medicinal cannabis products, or topical cannabis as those terms are defined in Division 10 (commencing with Section 26000) of the Business and Professions Code when a qualified patient or primary caregiver for a qualified patient provides his or her their card issued under Section 11362.71 of the Health and Safety Code and a valid government-issued identification card.
- (g) Nothing in this section shall be construed to impose an excise tax upon medicinal cannabis, or medicinal cannabis product, donated for no consideration to a medicinal cannabis patient pursuant to Section 26071 of the Business and Professions Code.

SEC. 11.

Section 34012 of the Revenue and Taxation Code is amended to read:

- (a) Effective January 1, 2018, there is hereby imposed a cultivation tax on all harvested cannabis that enters the commercial market upon all cultivators. The tax shall be due after the cannabis is harvested and enters the commercial market.
- (1) The tax for cannabis flowers shall be nine dollars and twenty-five cents (\$9.25) per dry-weight ounce.
- (2) The tax for cannabis leaves shall be set at two dollars and seventy-five cents (\$2.75) per dry-weight ounce.
- (b) The department may adjust the tax rate for cannabis leaves annually to reflect fluctuations in the relative price of cannabis flowers to cannabis leaves.
- (c) The department may from time to time establish other categories of harvested cannabis, categories for unprocessed or frozen cannabis or immature plants, or cannabis that is shipped directly to manufacturers. These categories shall be taxed at their relative value compared with cannabis flowers.
- (d) The department may prescribe by regulation a method and manner for payment of the cultivation tax that utilizes tax stamps or state-issued product bags that indicate that all required tax has been paid on the product to which the tax stamp is affixed or in which the cannabis is packaged.
- (e) The tax stamps and product bags shall be of the designs, specifications, and denominations as may be prescribed by the department and may be purchased by any licensee under Division 10 (commencing with Section 26000) of the Business and Professions Code.
- (f) Subsequent to the establishment of a tax stamp program, the department may by regulation provide that cannabis shall not be removed from a licensed cultivation facility or transported on a public highway unless in a state-issued product bag bearing a tax stamp in the proper denomination.

- (g) The tax stamps and product bags shall be capable of being read by a scanning or similar device and must be traceable utilizing the track and trace system pursuant to Section 26068 of the Business and Professions Code.
- (h) Cultivators shall be responsible for payment of the tax pursuant to regulations adopted by the department. A cultivator's liability for the tax is not extinguished until the tax has been paid to this state except that an invoice, receipt, or other document from a distributor or manufacturer given to the cultivator pursuant to paragraph (3) is sufficient to relieve the cultivator from further liability for the tax to which the invoice, receipt, or other document refers. Cannabis shall not be sold unless the tax has been paid as provided in this part.
- (1) A distributor shall collect the cultivation tax from a cultivator on all harvested cannabis that enters the commercial market. This paragraph shall not apply where a cultivator is not required to send, and does not send, the harvested cannabis to a distributor.
- (2) (A) A manufacturer shall collect the cultivation tax from a cultivator on the first sale or transfer of unprocessed cannabis by a cultivator to a manufacturer. The manufacturer shall remit the cultivation tax collected on the cannabis product sold or transferred to a distributor for quality assurance, inspection, and testing, as described in Section 26110 of the Business and Professions Code. This paragraph shall not apply where a distributor collects the cultivation tax from a cultivator pursuant to paragraph (1).
- (B) Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), the department may prescribe a substitute method and manner for collection and remittance of the cultivation tax under this paragraph, including a method and manner for collection of the cultivation tax by a distributor.
- (3) A distributor or manufacturer shall provide to the cultivator, and a distributor that collects the cultivation tax from a manufacturer pursuant to paragraph (2) shall provide to the manufacturer, an invoice, receipt, or other similar document that identifies the licensee receiving the product, the cultivator from which the product originates, including the associated unique identifier, the amount of cultivation tax, and any other information deemed necessary by the department. The department may authorize other forms of documentation under this paragraph.
- (4) The department may adopt regulations prescribing procedures for the refund of cultivation tax collected on cannabis or cannabis product that fails quality assurance, inspection, and testing as described in Section 26110 of the Business and Professions Code.
- (i) All cannabis removed from a cultivator's premises, except for plant waste, waste or medicinal cannabis or medicinal cannabis products designated for donation, shall be presumed to be sold and thereby taxable under this section.
- (j) The tax imposed by this section shall be imposed on all cannabis cultivated in the state pursuant to rules and regulations promulgated by the department, but shall not apply to cannabis cultivated for personal use under Section 11362.1 of the Health and Safety Code or cultivated by a qualified patient or primary caregiver in accordance with the Compassionate Use Act of 1996 (Section (Proposition 215), found in Section 11362.5 of the Health and Safety Code). Code.
- (k) Beginning January 1, 2020, the rates set forth in subdivisions (a), (b), and (c) shall be adjusted by the department annually thereafter for inflation.
- (I) The Department of Food and Agriculture is not responsible for enforcing any provisions of the cultivation tax.

SEC. 12.

Section 34012.1 is added to the Revenue and Taxation Code, to read:

34012.1.

- (a) Notwithstanding Section 34012, on and after the operative date of the act adding this section, the cultivation tax shall not be imposed on medicinal cannabis designated for donation by a cultivator in the track and trace system.
- (b) A person licensed under Division 10 (commencing with Section 26000) of the Business and Professions Code that certifies in writing that medicinal cannabis or a medicinal cannabis product will be donated to a medicinal cannabis patient and sells or uses the medicinal cannabis or medicinal cannabis product in some manner or for some purpose other than donation, shall be liable for the taxes under this part. The certification in writing shall relieve the cultivator that donates the medicinal cannabis from liability for the taxes imposed and shall relieve the distributor from liability for the taxes required to be collected under this part, only if the certification is taken in good faith.
- (c) A distributor or manufacturer shall not collect or remit the cultivation tax for medicinal cannabis or medicinal cannabis products designated for donation by a cultivator.
- (d) A cultivator shall keep records of any medicinal cannabis or medicinal cannabis products designated for donation.
- (e) Nothing in this part shall be construed to impose a cultivation tax upon medicinal cannabis or medicinal cannabis products designated for donation.
- (f) For purposes of this section, "medicinal cannabis" and "medicinal cannabis product" shall mean cannabis and cannabis product, as defined in Section 26001 of the Business and Professions Code, intended for use pursuant to the Compassionate Use Act of 1996 (Proposition 215), found in Section 11362.5 of the Health and Safety Code, by a medicinal cannabis patient.
- (g) (1) This section shall become operative upon completion of the necessary changes to the track and trace program in order to implement the act adding this section, as determined by the Department of Food and Agriculture, or on March 1, 2020, whichever occurs first.
- (2) This section shall remain in effect only until five years after it becomes operative, and as of that date is repealed.

SEC. 13.

It is the intent of the Legislature to apply the requirements of Section 41 of the Revenue and Taxation Code to this act. Therefore, the Legislature finds and declares the following with respect to the tax exemptions provided by Section 6414 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, as added by Section 7 of this act, and Section 34012.1 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, as added by Section 11 of this act:

(a) The goal and objective of the tax exemptions provided by Section 6414 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, as added by Section 7 of this act, and Section 34012.1 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, as added by Section 11 of this act, is to eliminate the tax burden placed on charitable cannabis donations to medicinal cannabis patients in order to minimize the need for those patients to turn to the illicit market in the state. By providing tax exemptions for medicinal cannabis products that are donated to medicinal cannabis patients, this act is intended to offset other financial burdens that cannabis licensees face that bar them from donating cannabis to medicinal cannabis patients who are unable to afford and access safe and tested cannabis in the legal market.

- (b) In order to enable the Legislature to determine whether the tax exemptions provided by Section 6414 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, as added by Section 7 of this act, and Section 34012.1 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, as added by Section 11 of this act, are meeting, failing to meet, or exceeding the goal and objective specified in subdivision (a), the Legislative Analyst's Office shall collect data from the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration, the Bureau of Cannabis Control, and the Department of Food and Agriculture, including, but not limited to, data on tax revenue lost, the amount of medicinal cannabis products donated, and the number of medicinal cannabis patients served, as a result of the tax exemptions, as that data becomes available. The California Department of Tax and Fee Administration, the Bureau of Cannabis Control, and the Department of Food and Agriculture shall make any information requested pursuant to this subdivision available to the Legislative Analyst's Office. The Legislative Analyst's Office shall submit an annual report containing this data to the Legislature and the Governor each year that the tax exemptions are in effect. A report submitted pursuant to this subdivision shall be submitted in compliance with Section 9795 of the Government Code.
- (c) (1) This section shall become operative upon completion of the necessary changes to the track and trace program in order to implement the act adding this section, as determined by the Department of Food and Agriculture, or on March 1, 2020, whichever occurs first.
- (2) This section shall remain in effect only until five years after it becomes operative, and as of that date is repealed.

SEC. 14.

The provisions of this act are severable. If any provision of this act or its application is held invalid, that invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application.

SEC. 15.

Section 3.5 of this bill incorporates amendments to Section 26001 of the Business and Professions Code proposed by both this bill and Senate Bill 185. That section of this bill shall only become operative if (1) both bills are enacted and become effective on or before January 1, 2020, (2) each bill amends Section 26001 of the Business and Professions Code, and (3) this bill is enacted after Senate Bill 185, in which case Section 3 of this bill shall not become operative.

SEC. 16.

Notwithstanding Section 2230 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, no appropriation is made by this act and the state shall not reimburse any local agency for any sales and use tax revenues lost by it under this act.

SEC. 17.

No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution.

SEC. 18.

The Legislature finds and declares that this act is consistent with, and furthers the purposes and intent of, the Control, Regulate and Tax Adult Use of Marijuana Act, as stated in Section 3 of that act, by allowing indigent medicinal cannabis patients to continue to receive donated cannabis for medicinal personal use.

SB 187, Chapter 545

Rosenthal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act. Effective Date 1/1/2020

1.

The amendments of subdivision (f) of Section 1788.2 of the Civil Code made by this act do not constitute a change in, but are declaratory of, existing law.

SEC. 2

Section 1788.2 of the Civil Code is amended to read:

1788.2.

- (a) Definitions and rules of construction set forth in this section are applicable for the purpose of this title.
- (b) The term "debt collection" means any act or practice in connection with the collection of consumer debts.
- (c) The term "debt collector" means any person who, in the ordinary course of business, regularly, on behalf of himself or herself or that person or others, engages in debt collection. The term includes any person who composes and sells, or offers to compose and sell, forms, letters, and other collection media used or intended to be used for debt collection, but does not include an attorney or counselor at law. collection.
- (d) The term "debt" means money, property property, or their equivalent which that is due or owing or alleged to be due or owing from a natural person to another person.
- (e) The term "consumer credit transaction" means a transaction between a natural person and another person in which property, services services, or money is acquired on credit by that natural person from such the other person primarily for personal, family, or household purposes.
- (f) The terms "consumer debt" and "consumer credit" mean money, property property, or their equivalent, due or owing or alleged to be due or owing from a natural person by reason of a consumer credit transaction. The term "consumer debt" includes a mortgage debt.
- (g) The term "person" means a natural person, partnership, corporation, limited liability company, trust, estate, cooperative, association association, or other similar entity.
- (h) Except as provided in Section 1788.18, the term "debtor" means a natural person from whom a debt collector seeks to collect a consumer debt which that is due and owing or alleged to be due and owing from such person.
- (i) The term "creditor" means a person who extends consumer credit to a debtor.
- (j) The term "consumer credit report" means any written, oral oral, or other communication of any information by a consumer reporting agency bearing on a consumer's creditworthiness, credit standing, credit capacity, character, general reputation, personal characteristics characteristics, or mode of living which that is used or expected to be used or collected in whole or in part for the purpose of serving as a factor in establishing the consumer's eligibility for (1) credit or insurance to be used primarily for personal, family, or household purposes, or (2) employment purposes, or (3) other purposes authorized under any applicable federal or state law or regulation. The term does not include (a) any report containing information solely as to transactions or experiences between the consumer and the person making the report; (b) any authorization or

approval of a specific extension of credit directly or indirectly by the issuer of a credit card or similar device; or (c) any report in which a person who has been requested by a third party to make a specific extension of credit directly or indirectly to a consumer conveys his or her that person's decision with respect to that request, if the third party advises the consumer of the name and address of the person to whom the request was made made, and such the person makes the disclosures to the consumer required under any applicable federal or state law or regulation.

(k) The term "consumer reporting agency" means any person which, that, for monetary fees, dues, or on a cooperative nonprofit basis, regularly engages, in whole or in part, in the practice of assembling or evaluating consumer credit information or other information on consumers for the purpose of furnishing consumer credit reports to third parties, parties and which—uses any means or facility for the purpose of preparing or furnishing consumer credit reports.

SB 196, Chapter 669

Property taxes: community land trust. Effective Date 1/1/2020

SECTION 1.

The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

- (a) The availability of housing is of vital statewide importance, and the development of decent and secure housing for every Californian is a priority of the highest order.
- (b) There is currently a severe housing crisis in California, especially impacting the ability of persons and families of low and moderate income to purchase and own or rent a home or unit.
- (c) Community land trusts and limited equity housing cooperatives acquire, develop, rehabilitate, and own single-family dwelling units and multifamily housing unit projects for the specific purpose of providing, among other affordable housing options, limited equity home ownership and affordable rental housing to persons and families of low and moderate income.
- (d) To facilitate the acquisition, development, rehabilitation, and financing of ownership and rental housing for persons and families of low and moderate income, community land trusts and limited equity housing cooperatives, when acquiring, developing, or rehabilitating property for persons and families of low and moderate income, the property must be exempt from property taxation upon acquisition to facilitate development and rehabilitation of restricted affordable dwellings and units. With regard to this exemption, the exempt activities of community land trusts and limited equity housing cooperatives that are working with community land trusts qualitatively differ from the exempt activities of other nonprofit entities that provide housing, in that the land is held in perpetuity for persons and families of low and moderate income. The holding of real property by community land trusts and limited equity housing cooperatives is central to those entities' exempt purposes and activities. Thus, owning property constitutes the exclusive use of that property for a charitable purpose, within the meaning of subdivision (b) of Section 4 of Article XIII of the California Constitution. Moreover, in the case of homes sold to persons and families of low and moderate income, the underlying land will become taxable once the home is sold.

SEC. 2.

Section 75.11 of the Revenue and Taxation Code is amended to read:

75.11.

(a) If the change in ownership occurs or the new construction is completed on or after January 1 but on or before May 31, then there shall be two supplemental assessments placed on the

supplemental roll. The first supplemental assessment shall be the difference between the new base year value and the taxable value on the current roll. In the case of a change in ownership of the full interest in the real property, the second supplemental assessment shall be the difference between the new base year value and the taxable value to be enrolled on the roll being prepared. If the change in ownership is of only a partial interest in the real property, the second supplemental assessment shall be the difference between the sum of the new base year value of the portion transferred plus the taxable value on the roll being prepared of the remainder of the property and the taxable value on the roll being prepared of the whole property. For new construction, the second supplemental assessment shall be the value change due to the new construction.

- (b) If the change in ownership occurs or the new construction is completed on or after June 1 but before the succeeding January 1, then the supplemental assessment placed on the supplemental roll shall be the difference between the new base year value and the taxable value on the current roll.
- (c) If there are multiple changes in ownership or multiple completions of new construction, or both, with respect to the same real property during the same assessment year, then there shall be a net supplemental assessment placed on the supplemental roll, in addition to the assessment pursuant to subdivision (a) or (b). The net supplemental assessment shall be the most recent new base year value less the sum of (1) the previous entry or entries placed on the supplemental roll computed pursuant to subdivision (a) or (b), and (2) the corresponding taxable value on the current roll or the taxable value to be entered on the roll being prepared, or both, depending on the date or dates the change of ownership occurs or new construction is completed as specified in subdivisions (a) and (b).
- (d) No supplemental assessment authorized by this section shall be valid, or have any force or effect, unless it is placed on the supplemental roll on or before the applicable date specified in paragraph (1), (2), (3), or (3), (4), as follows:
- (1) The fourth July 1 following the July 1 of the assessment year in which the event giving rise to the supplemental assessment occurred.
- (2) The eighth July 1 following the July 1 of the assessment year in which the event giving rise to the supplemental assessment occurred, if the penalty provided for in Section 504 is added to the assessment.
- (3) The eighth July 1 following the July 1 of the assessment year in which the event giving rise to the supplemental assessment occurred, if the change in ownership was unrecorded and a change in ownership statement required by Section 480 or preliminary change in ownership report, as required by Section 480.3, was not timely filed.
- (4) Notwithstanding any other law, in the case where property that is owned by a community land trust and was previously exempt pursuant to Section 214.18 becomes subject to taxation pursuant to subdivision (d) of that section, any assessment made in the amount of an exemption, or that portion of the exemption, previously allowed pursuant to Section 214.18 shall be made within five years of the lien date following the date on which the property becomes subject to taxation.
- (4) (5) Notwithstanding paragraphs (1), (2), (3), and (3), (4), there shall be no limitation period on making a supplemental assessment, if the penalty provided for in Section 503 is added to the assessment.

For the purposes of this subdivision, "assessment year" means the period beginning annually as of 12:01 a.m. on the first day of January and ending immediately prior to the succeeding first day of January.

(e) If, before the expiration of the applicable period specified in subdivision (d) for making a supplemental assessment, the taxpayer and the assessor agree in writing to extend the period for making a supplemental assessment, correction, or claim for refund, a supplemental assessment may be made at any time prior to the expiration of that extended period. The extended period may be further extended by successive written agreements entered into prior to the expiration of the most recent extension.

SEC. 3.

Section 214.18 is added to the Revenue and Taxation Code, to read:

214.18.

- (a) Property is within the exemption provided by Sections 4 and 5 of Article XIII of the California Constitution if the property is owned by a community land trust, otherwise qualifying for exemption under Section 214, and all of the following conditions are met:
- (1) The property is being or will be developed or rehabilitated as any of the following:
- (A) An owner-occupied single-family dwelling.
- (B) As an owner-occupied unit in a multifamily dwelling.
- (C) As a member-occupied unit in a limited equity housing cooperative.
- (D) As a rental housing development.
- (2) Improvements on the property are or will be available for use and ownership or for rent by qualified persons.
- (3) (A) A deed restriction or other instrument, requiring a contract or contracts serving as an enforceable restriction on the sale or resale value of owner-occupied units or on the affordability of rental units is recorded on or before the lien date following the acquisition of the property by the community land trust.
- (B) For purposes of this section, "a contract or contracts serving as an enforceable restriction on the sale or resale value of owner-occupied units or on the affordability of rental units" means a contract described in paragraph (11) of subdivision (a) of Section 402.1.
- (C) A copy of the deed restriction or other instrument shall be provided to the assessor.
- (b) (1) Subject to subdivision (d), the exemption provided by subdivision (a) shall not be denied to a property on the basis that the property does not currently contain a single-family dwelling, a unit in a limited equity housing cooperative, or a rental housing development that is in the course of construction.
- (2) Once property that is a rental housing development is in the course of construction, the property shall be deemed to qualify for the exemption provided under Section 214 and on subsequent lien dates the property shall qualify for exemption pursuant to Section 214.
- (c) For purposes of this section, all of the following definitions shall apply:
- (1) "Community land trust" has the same meaning as that term is defined in clause (ii) of subparagraph (B) paragraph (11) of subdivision (a) of Section 402.1.
- (2) "Course of construction" has the same meaning as the term "facilities in the course of construction," as used and defined in Sections 214.1 and 214.2.

- (3) "Limited equity housing cooperative" has the same meaning as that term is defined in Section 817 of the Civil Code.
- (4) "Persons and families of low income" has the same meaning as the term "lower income households," as defined in Section 50079.5 of the Health and Safety Code.
- (5) "Persons and families of low or moderate income" has the same meaning as that term is defined in Section 50093 of the Health and Safety Code.
- (6) "Qualified persons" means the following:
- (A) In the case of property developed for owner-occupied housing, as described in subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (a), persons and families of low or moderate income, including persons and families of low or moderate income that own a dwelling or unit collectively as member occupants or resident shareholders of a limited equity housing cooperative.
- (B) In the case of property developed for rental housing, as described in subparagraph (D) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (a), persons and families of low income.
- (7) "Rental housing development" means a rental housing development in which all of the residential units in the development, other than units provided to property managers, are required to be rented to, and occupied by, persons and families of low or moderate income, at rents that do not exceed an affordable rent as described in Section 50053 of the Health and Safety Code.
- (d) (1) Notwithstanding any other law, the community land trust shall be liable for property tax for the years for which the property was exempt from taxation pursuant to this section if the property was not developed or rehabilitated, or if the development or rehabilitation is not in the course of construction, in accordance with paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) as follows:
- (A) In the case of property acquired by the community land trust before January 1, 2020, by January 1, 2025.
- (B) In the case of property acquired by the community land trust on and after January 1, 2020, and before January 1, 2025, within five years of the lien date following the acquisition of the property by the community land trust.
- (2) The community land trust shall notify the assessor of the county in which the property is located if property owned by the community land trust granted an exemption pursuant to this section is not in the course of construction by the dates specified in paragraph (1).
- (e) Property shall be eligible for exemption pursuant to this section as follows:
- (1) In the case of property acquired by the community land trust before January 1, 2020, for lien dates occurring on and after January 1, 2020, and before January 1, 2025.
- (2) (A) In the case of property acquired by the community land trust on and after January 1, 2020, and before January 1, 2025, for the first five lien dates following the acquisition of the property by the community land trust.
- (B) Property shall be eligible for exemption for the lien dates specified in subparagraph (A) regardless of the repeal of this section.
- (f) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2025, and as of that date is repealed.

SEC. 4.

Section 402.1 of the Revenue and Taxation Code is amended to read:

402.1.

- (a) In the assessment of land, the assessor shall consider the effect upon value of any enforceable restrictions to which the use of the land may be subjected. These restrictions shall include, but are not limited to, all of the following:
- (1) Zoning.
- (2) Recorded contracts with governmental agencies other than those provided in Sections 422, 422.5, and 422.7.
- (3) Permit authority of, and permits issued by, governmental agencies exercising land use powers concurrently with local governments, including the California Coastal Commission and regional coastal commissions, the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission, and the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency.
- (4) Development controls of a local government in accordance with any local coastal program certified pursuant to Division 20 (commencing with Section 30000) of the Public Resources Code.
- (5) Development controls of a local government in accordance with a local protection program, or any component thereof, certified pursuant to Division 19 (commencing with Section 29000) of the Public Resources Code.
- (6) Environmental constraints applied to the use of land pursuant to provisions of statutes.
- (7) Hazardous waste land use restriction pursuant to Section 25226 of the Health and Safety Code.
- (8) (A) A recorded conservation, trail, or scenic easement, as described in Section 815.1 of the Civil Code, that is granted in favor of a public agency, or in favor of a nonprofit corporation organized pursuant to Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code that has as its primary purpose the preservation, protection, or enhancement of land in its natural, scenic, historical, agricultural, forested, or open-space condition or use.
- (B) A recorded greenway easement, as described in Section 816.52 of the Civil Code, that is granted in favor of a public agency, or in favor of a nonprofit corporation organized pursuant to Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code that has as its primary purpose the developing and preserving of greenways.
- (9) A solar-use easement pursuant to Chapter 6.9 (commencing with Section 51190) of Part 1 of Division 1 of Title 5 of the Government Code.
- (10) A contract where the following apply:
- (A) The contract is with a nonprofit corporation organized pursuant to Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code that has received a welfare exemption under Section 214.15 for properties intended to be sold to low-income families who participate in a special no-interest loan program.
- (B) The contract restricts the use of the land for at least 30 years to owner-occupied housing available at affordable housing cost in accordance with Section 50052.5 of the Health and Safety Code.
- (C) The contract includes a deed of trust on the property in favor of the nonprofit corporation to ensure compliance with the terms of the program, which has no value unless the owner fails to comply with the covenants and restrictions of the terms of the home sale.

- (D) The local housing authority or an equivalent agency, or, if none exists, the city attorney or county counsel, has made a finding that the long-term deed restrictions in the contract serve a public purpose.
- (E) The contract is recorded and provided to the assessor.
- (11) (A) A contract where the following apply:
- (i) The contract is a renewable 99-year ground lease between a community land trust and the qualified owner of an owner-occupied single-family dwelling or an owner-occupied unit in a multifamily dwelling.
- (ii) The contract subjects a single-family dwelling or unit in a multifamily dwelling, and the land on which the dwelling or unit is situated that is leased to the qualified owner by a community land trust for the convenient occupation and use of that dwelling or unit, to affordability restrictions.
- (iii) One of the following public agencies or officials has made a finding that the affordability restrictions in the contract serve the public interest to create and preserve the affordability of residential housing for persons and families of low or moderate income:
- (I) The director of the local housing authority or equivalent agency.
- (II) The county counsel.
- (III) The director of a county housing department.
- (IV) The city attorney.
- (V) The director of a city housing department.
- (iv) The contract is recorded and is provided to the assessor.
- (B) (i) For purposes of this paragraph, all of the following definitions shall apply: the sale or resale price of the dwelling or unit is rebuttably presumed to include both the dwelling or unit and the leased land on which the dwelling or unit is situated. This presumption may be overcome if the assessor establishes by a preponderance of the evidence that all or a portion of the value of the leased land is not reflected in the sale or resale price of the dwelling or unit.
- (ii) Notwithstanding any other law, corrections of base year values and declines in value owing to the restrictions on properties assessed under this subparagraph shall apply to all lien dates occurring after September 27, 2016.
- (C) For purposes of this paragraph, all of the following definitions shall apply:
- (i) "Affordability restrictions" mean that all of the following conditions are met:
- (I) The dwelling or unit can only be sold or resold to a qualified owner to be occupied as a principal place of residence.
- (II) The sale or resale price of the dwelling or unit is determined by a formula that ensures the dwelling or unit has a purchase price that is affordable to qualified owners.
- (III) There is a purchase option for the dwelling or unit in favor of a community land trust intended to preserve the dwelling or unit as affordable to qualified owners.
- (IV) The dwelling or unit is to remain affordable to qualified owners by a renewable 99-year ground lease.

- (ii) "Community land trust" means a nonprofit corporation organized pursuant to Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code that satisfies all of the following:
- (I) Has as its primary purposes the creation and maintenance of permanently affordable single-family or multifamily residences.
- (II) All dwellings and units located on the land owned by the nonprofit corporation are sold to a qualified owner to be occupied as the qualified owner's primary residence or rented to persons and families of low or moderate income.
- (III) The land owned by the nonprofit corporation, on which a dwelling or unit sold to a qualified owner is situated, is leased by the nonprofit corporation to the qualified owner for the convenient occupation and use of that dwelling or unit for a renewable term of 99 years.
- (iii) "Limited equity housing cooperative" has the same meaning as that term is defined in Section 817 of the Civil Code.
- (iv) "Persons and families of low or moderate income" has the same meaning as that term is defined in Section 50093 of the Health and Safety Code.
- (v) "Qualified owner" means persons and families of low or moderate income, including persons and families of low or moderate income that own a dwelling or unit collectively as member occupants or resident shareholders of a limited equity housing cooperative.
- (b) There is a rebuttable presumption that restrictions will not be removed or substantially modified in the predictable future and that they will substantially equate the value of the land to the value attributable to the legally permissible use or uses.
- (c) Grounds for rebutting the presumption may include, but are not necessarily limited to, the past history of like use restrictions in the jurisdiction in question and the similarity of sales prices for restricted and unrestricted land. The possible expiration of a restriction at a time certain shall not be conclusive evidence of the future removal or modification of the restriction unless there is no opportunity or likelihood of the continuation or renewal of the restriction, or unless a necessary party to the restriction has indicated an intent to permit its expiration at that time.
- (d) In assessing land with respect to which the presumption is unrebutted, the assessor shall not consider sales of otherwise comparable land not similarly restricted as to use as indicative of value of land under restriction, unless the restrictions have a demonstrably minimal effect upon value.
- (e) In assessing land under an enforceable use restriction wherein the presumption of no predictable removal or substantial modification of the restriction has been rebutted, but where the restriction nevertheless retains some future life and has some effect on present value, the assessor may consider, in addition to all other legally permissible information, representative sales of comparable lands that are not under restriction but upon which natural limitations have substantially the same effect as restrictions.
- (f) For the purposes of this section the following definitions apply:
- (1) "Comparable lands" are lands that are similar to the land being valued in respect to legally permissible uses and physical attributes.
- (2) "Representative sales information" is information from sales of a sufficient number of comparable lands to give an accurate indication of the full cash value of the land being valued.
- (g) It is hereby declared that the purpose and intent of the Legislature in enacting this section is to provide for a method of determining whether a sufficient amount of representative sales

information is available for land under use restriction to ensure the accurate assessment of that land. It is also hereby declared that the further purpose and intent of the Legislature in enacting this section and Section 1630 is to avoid an assessment policy which, in the absence of special circumstances, considers uses for land that legally are not available to the owner and not contemplated by government, and that these sections are necessary to implement the public policy of encouraging and maintaining effective land use planning. This statute shall not be construed as requiring the assessment of any land at a value less than as required by Section 401 or as prohibiting the use of representative comparable sales information on land under similar restrictions when this information is available.

SEC. 5.

Section 532 of the Revenue and Taxation Code is amended to read:

532.

- (a) Except as provided in subdivision (b), any assessment made pursuant to either Article 3 (commencing with Section 501) or this article shall be made within four years after July 1 of the assessment year in which the property escaped taxation or was underassessed.
- (b) (1) Any assessment to which the penalty provided for in Section 504 must be added shall be made within eight years after July 1 of the assessment year in which the property escaped taxation or was underassessed.
- (2) Any assessment resulting from an unrecorded change in ownership for which either a change in ownership statement, as required by Section 480 or a preliminary change in ownership report, as required by Section 480.3, is not timely filed with respect to the event giving rise to the escape assessment or underassessment shall be made within eight years after July 1 of the assessment year in which the property escaped taxation or was underassessed. For purposes of this paragraph, an "unrecorded change in ownership" means a deed or other document evidencing a change in ownership that was not filed with the county recorder's office at the time the event took place.
- (3) Notwithstanding paragraphs (1) and (2), in the case where property has escaped taxation, in whole or in part, or has been underassessed, following a change in ownership or change in control and either the penalty provided for in Section 503 must be added or a change in ownership statement, as required by Section 480.1 or 480.2 was not filed with respect to the event giving rise to the escape assessment or underassessment, an escape assessment shall be made for each year in which the property escaped taxation or was underassessed.
- (4) Notwithstanding any other law, in the case where property that is owned by a community land trust and was previously exempt pursuant to Section 214.18 becomes subject to taxation pursuant to subdivision (d) of that section, any assessment made in the amount of an exemption, or that portion of the exemption, previously allowed pursuant to Section 214.18 shall be made within five years of the lien date following the date on which the property becomes subject to taxation.
- (c) For purposes of this section, "assessment year" means the period defined in Section 118.

SEC. 6.

It is the intent of the Legislature to apply the requirements of Section 41 of the Revenue and Taxation Code to this act. To assist the Legislature in determining whether the exemption allowed by Section 214.18 of the Revenue and Taxation Code fulfills the goals, purposes, and objectives as described in Section 1 of this act, the State Board of Equalization shall annually collect data from county assessors to quantify the amount of assessed value exempted, and the number of owner-occupied dwelling units or rental units, or both, created by community land trusts granted

this exemption. Community land trusts claiming this exemption shall provide information to county assessors, in the form and manner as required by the county assessor, about the additional housing created.

SEC. 7.

The Legislature finds and declares that the amendments to Section 402.1 of the Revenue and Taxation Code by this act serve a public purpose and do not constitute a prohibited gift of public funds within the meaning of Section 6 of Article XVI of the California Constitution by providing necessary property tax relief to persons and families of low or moderate income and thereby creating a secure and stable affordable housing stock.

SEC. 8.

If the Commission on State Mandates determines that this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

SEC. 9.

Notwithstanding Section 2229 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, no appropriation is made by this act and the state shall not reimburse any local agency for any property tax revenues lost by it pursuant to this act.

SB 249, Chapter 366

Land use: Subdivision Map Act: expiration dates. Effective Date 9/27/2019

SECTION 1.

Section 66452.27 is added to the Government Code, to read:

66452.27.

- (a) A legislative body located within the County of Butte, may extend the expiration date for up to 36 months of any tentative map, vesting tentative map, or parcel map for which a tentative map or vesting tentative map, as the case may be, that was approved on or after January 1, 2006, and not later than March 31, 2019, that relates to the construction of single or multifamily housing, and that has not expired on or before the effective date of the act that added this section.
- (b) Any legislative, administrative, or other approval by any state agency that pertains to a development project included in a map that is extended pursuant to subdivision (a) shall be extended by 36 months if the approval has not expired on or before the effective date of the act that added this section.
- (c) The extension provided by subdivisions (a) and (b) shall be in addition to any extension of the expiration date provided for in Section 66452.6, 66452.21, 66452.22, 66452.23, 66452.24, or 66463.5.

SEC. 2.

The Legislature finds and declares that a special statute is necessary and that a general statute cannot be made applicable within the meaning of Section 16 of Article IV of the California Constitution because of the unique circumstances faced by the County of Butte and the cities within the County of Butte in preserving development applications that are set to expire in order to provide housing to persons displaced by the Camp Fire incident.

SEC. 3.

No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because a local agency or school district has the authority to levy service charges, fees, or assessments sufficient to pay for the program or level of service mandated by this act, within the meaning of Section 17556 of the Government Code.

SEC. 4.

This act is an urgency statute necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety within the meaning of Article IV of the California Constitution and shall go into immediate effect. The facts constituting the necessity are:

In order to allow the County of Butte and cities within the County of Butte to preserve development applications that are set to expire to provide housing to persons displaced by the Camp Fire incident, it is necessary that this act take effect immediately.

SB 616, Chapter 552

Enforcement of money judgements: exemptions.

Effective Date 1/1/2020

SECTION 1.

Section 699.520 of the Code of Civil Procedure is amended to read:

699.520.

The writ of execution shall require the levying officer to whom it is directed to enforce the money judgment and shall include the following information:

- (a) The date of issuance of the writ.
- (b) The title of the court where in which the judgment is entered and the cause and number of the action.
- (c) Whether the judgment is for wages owed, child support, or spousal support. This paragraph shall become operative on September 1, 2020.
- (e) (d) The name and address of the judgment creditor and the name and last known address of the judgment debtor. If the judgment debtor is other than a natural person, the type of legal entity shall be stated.
- (d) (e) The date of the entry of the judgment and of any subsequent renewals and where entered in the records of the court.
- (e) (f) The total amount of the money judgment as entered or renewed, together with costs thereafter added to the judgment pursuant to Section 685.090 and the accrued interest on the judgment from the date of entry or renewal of the judgment to the date of issuance of the writ, reduced by any partial satisfactions and by any amounts no longer enforceable.
- (f) (g) The amount required to satisfy the money judgment on the date the writ is issued.
- (g) (h) The amount of interest accruing daily on the principal amount of the judgment from the date the writ is issued.
- (h) (i) Whether any person has requested notice of sale under the judgment and, if so, the name and mailing address of that person.

- (i) (j) The sum of the fees and costs added to the judgment pursuant to Section 6103.5 or 68511.3 of Article 6 (commencing with Section 68630) of Chapter 2 of Title 8 of the Government Code, and which is in addition to the amount owing to the judgment creditor on the judgment.
- (i) (k) Whether the writ of execution includes any additional names of the judgment debtor pursuant to an affidavit of identity, as defined in Section 680.135.
- (k) (1) A statement indicating whether the case is limited or unlimited.

SEC. 2.

Section 699.540 of the Code of Civil Procedure is amended to read:

699.540.

The notice of levy required by Article 4 (commencing with Section 700.010) shall inform the person notified of all of the following:

- (a) The capacity in which the person is notified.
- (b) The property that is levied upon.
- (c) The person's rights under the levy, including all of the following:
- (1) The right to claim an exemption pursuant to Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 703.010).
- (c) (2) The person's rights under the levy, including the right to claim an exemption pursuant to Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 703.010) and the right to make a third-party claim pursuant to Division 4 (commencing with Section 720.010).
- (3) The right to, and the limitations of, the automatic exemption pursuant to Section 704.220. This paragraph shall become operative on September 1, 2020.
- (d) The person's duties under the levy.
- (e) All names listed in the writ of execution pursuant to an affidavit of identity, as defined in Section 680.135, if any.

SEC. 3.

Section 703.520 of the Code of Civil Procedure is amended to read:

703.520.

- (a) The claimant may make a claim of exemption by filing with the levying officer a claim of exemption together with a copy thereof. The claim shall be made within 10 days after the date the notice of levy on the property claimed to be exempt was served on the judgment debtor.
- (b) The claim of exemption shall be executed under oath and shall include all of the following:
- (1) The name of the claimant and the mailing address where service of a notice of opposition to the claim may be made upon the claimant.
- (2) The name and last known address of the judgment debtor if the claimant is not the judgment debtor.
- (3) A description of the property claimed to be exempt. If an exemption is claimed pursuant to Section 704.010 or 704.060, the claimant shall describe all other property of the same type (including type, including exempt proceeds of property of the same type) type, owned by the judgment debtor alone or in combination with others on the date of levy and identify the property, whether or not levied upon, to which the exemption is to be applied. If an exemption is claimed

pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 704.100, the claimant shall state the nature and amount of all other property of the same type owned by the judgment debtor or the spouse of the judgment debtor alone or in combination with others on the date of levy.

- (4) A financial statement statement, if required by Section 703.530.
- (5) A citation of the provision of this chapter or other statute upon which the claim is based.
- (6) A statement of the facts necessary to support the claim.
- (c) This section shall become inoperative on September 1, 2020, and, as of January 1, 2021, is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that becomes operative on or before January 1, 2021, deletes or extends the dates on which it becomes inoperative and is repealed.

SEC. 4.

Section 703.520 is added to the Code of Civil Procedure, to read:

703.520.

- (a) The claimant may make a claim of exemption by filing with the levying officer, either in person or by mail, a claim of exemption together with a copy of the claim. If the claimant is personally served, the claim shall be made within 15 days after the date the notice of levy on the property claimed to be exempt is served on the judgment debtor. If the claimant is served by mail, the claim shall be made within 20 days after the date the notice of levy on the property claimed to be exempt is served on the judgment debtor. If the claim is filed by mail and assigned a tracking number by the United States Postal Service or another common carrier, the filing shall be deemed complete on the date the claim is postmarked. If the claim is filed by mail and not assigned a tracking number, the filing shall be deemed complete on the date the claim is received by the levying officer.
- (b) The claim of exemption shall be executed under oath and shall include all of the following:
- (1) The name of the claimant and the mailing address where service of a notice of opposition to the claim may be made upon the claimant.
- (2) The name and last known address of the judgment debtor if the claimant is not the judgment debtor.
- (3) A description of the property claimed to be exempt. If an exemption is claimed pursuant to Section 704.010 or 704.060, the claimant shall describe all other property of the same type, including exempt proceeds of the property of the same type, owned by the judgment debtor alone or in combination with others on the date of levy and identify the property, whether or not levied upon, to which the exemption is to be applied. If an exemption is claimed pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 704.100, the claimant shall state the nature and amount of all other property of the same type owned by the judgment debtor or the spouse of the judgment debtor alone or in combination with others on the date of levy.
- (4) A financial statement if required by Section 703.530.
- (5) A citation of the provision of this chapter or other statute upon which the claim is based.
- (6) A statement of the facts necessary to support the claim.
- (c) This section shall become operative on September 1, 2020.

SEC. 5.

Section 703.550 of the Code of Civil Procedure is amended to read:

703.550.

- (a) Within 10 days after service of the notice of claim of exemption, a judgment creditor who opposes the claim of exemption shall file with the court a notice of opposition to the claim of exemption and a notice of motion for an order determining the claim of exemption and shall file with the levying officer a copy of the notice of opposition and a copy of the notice of motion. Upon the filing of the copies of the notice of opposition and notice of motion, the levying officer shall promptly file the claim of exemption with the court. If copies of the notice of opposition and notice of motion are not filed with the levying officer within the time allowed, the levying officer shall immediately release the property to the extent it is claimed to be exempt.
- (b) This section shall become inoperative on September 1, 2020, and, as of January 1, 2021, is repealed.

SEC. 6.

Section 703.550 is added to the Code of Civil Procedure, to read:

703.550.

- (a) Within 15 days after service of the notice of claim of exemption, a judgment creditor who opposes the claim of exemption shall file with the court a notice of opposition to the claim of exemption and a notice of motion for an order determining the claim of exemption and shall file with the levying officer a copy of the notice of opposition and a copy of the notice of motion. Upon the filing of the copies of the notice of opposition and notice of motion, the levying officer shall promptly file the claim of exemption with the court. If copies of the notice of opposition and notice of motion are not filed with the levying officer within the time allowed, the levying officer shall immediately release the property to the extent it is claimed to be exempt.
- (b) This section shall become operative on September 1, 2020.

SEC. 7.

Section 704.070 of the Code of Civil Procedure is amended to read:

704.070.

- (a) As used in this section:
- (1) "Earnings withholding order" means an earnings withholding order under Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 706.010) (Wage Garnishment Law).
- (2) "Paid earnings" means earnings as defined in Section 706.011 that were paid to the employee during the 30-day period ending on the date of the levy. For the purposes of this paragraph, where earnings that have been paid to the employee are sought to be subjected to the enforcement of a money judgment other than by a levy, the date of levy is deemed to be the date the earnings were otherwise subjected to the enforcement of the judgment.
- (3) "Earnings assignment order for support" means an earnings assignment order for support as defined in Section 706.011.
- (b) Paid earnings that can be traced into deposit accounts or in the form of cash or its equivalent as provided in Section 703.080 are exempt in the following amounts:
- (1) All of the paid earnings are exempt if prior to payment to the employee they were subject to an earnings withholding order or an earnings assignment order for support.

(2) Seventy-five percent of the paid earnings that Disposable earnings that would otherwise not be subject to levy under Section 706.050 that are levied upon or otherwise sought to be subjected to the enforcement of a money judgment are exempt if prior to payment to the employee they were not subject to an earnings withholding order or an earnings assignment order for support.

SEC. 8.

Section 704.220 is added to the Code of Civil Procedure, to read:

704.220.

- (a) Money in the judgment debtor's deposit account in an amount equal to or less than the minimum basic standard of adequate care for a family of four for Region 1, established by Section 11452 of the Welfare and Institutions Code and as annually adjusted by the State Department of Social Services pursuant to Section 11453 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, is exempt without making a claim.
- (b) (1) Subdivision (a) does not preclude or reduce a judgment debtor's right to any other exemption provided by state or federal law.
- (2) If the financial institution holding the judgment debtor's deposit account has actual knowledge that the judgment debtor is entitled to one or more exemptions that the financial institution is required to apply pursuant to federal law or state law other than that set forth in subdivision (a), the following shall apply:
- (A) If the sum of the amount of money in the deposit account that would be exempt from levy under the additional exemptions is less than or equal to the amount set forth in subdivision (a), the additional exemptions described in this paragraph shall be considered encompassed within the exemption set forth in subdivision (a) and subdivision (a) shall apply.
- (B) If the sum of the amount of money in the deposit account that would be exempt from levy under the additional exemptions is greater than the amount set forth in subdivision (a), subdivision (a) shall not apply and instead money in the deposit account equal to or less than the sum of the additional exemptions is exempt without making a claim.
- (c) Subdivision (a) does not apply to money levied upon to satisfy any of the following:
- (1) A levy to satisfy a judgment for wages owed, child support, or spousal support. For purposes of this paragraph, "wages owed" includes damages and penalties.
- (2) A provision of the Public Resources Code, Revenue and Taxation Code, or Unemployment Insurance Code.
- (3) A warrant or notice of levy issued by the state, or any department or agency thereof, for the collection of a liability.
- (d) A levy against a judgment debtor's deposit account shall include a written description of the requirements of this section.
- (e) (1) The exemption applies per debtor, not per account.
- (2) If a judgment debtor holds an interest in multiple accounts at a single financial institution, the judgment creditor or judgment debtor may file an ex parte application in the superior court in which the judgment was entered for a hearing to establish how and to which account the exemption should be applied. Subject to a service of an order issued in that hearing, if any, the financial institution may determine how and to which account the exemption should be applied. This

paragraph does not create a cause of action against a judgment creditor who executes a levy or against a financial institution that complies with a levy pursuant to the court's determination.

- (3) If a judgment debtor holds an interest in multiple accounts at two or more financial institutions, the judgment creditor shall, and the judgment debtor may, file an ex parte application in the superior court in which the judgment was entered for a hearing to establish how and to which account the exemption should be applied. Subject to a service of an order issued in that hearing, if any, the financial institutions shall comply with the levy subject to the exemption. This paragraph does not create a cause of action against a judgment creditor who executes a levy or against a financial institution which complies with a levy pursuant to the court's determination.
- (f) Subdivision (e) of Section 700.140 applies to a financial institution acting under this section.
- (g) The Judicial Council shall amend or adopt all forms necessary to implement this section. The forms shall clearly delineate the amount of funds exempt from levy by a financial institution, including funds exempted by this section.
- (h) This section shall become operative on September 1, 2020.

SEC. 9.

Section 704.225 is added to the Code of Civil Procedure, to read:

704.225.

Money in a judgment debtor's deposit account that is not otherwise exempt under this chapter is exempt to the extent necessary for the support of the judgment debtor and the spouse and dependents of the judgment debtor.

SEC. 10.

Section 704.230 is added to the Code of Civil Procedure, to read:

704.230.

Money provided to the judgment debtor by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is exempt without making a claim.

SB 789, Chapter 258

Local government: administration. Effective Date 1/1/2020

SECTION 1.

Section 53639 of the Government Code is amended to read:

- (a) Except as otherwise provided in Section 53682, the depository shall bear the expenses of transportation of money to and from the depository. If, pursuant to a contract between the treasurer and the depository, the depository is not required to bear the expense of transportation of money to and from the depository, the treasurer shall secure those transportation services by separate agreement or contract.
- (b) (1) A separate agreement or contract for transportation services includes an agreement to procure bank courier or armored car transport services and a contract for the pickup and transportation of moneys received by the treasurer or any other department requiring secure transportation.

(2) The terms of a separate agreement or contract for transportation services may include, but are not limited to, a specification of costs, frequency of pickup, locations of pickup, and any other transportation services that are necessary for the conduct of the treasurer's office.

SEC. 2.

Section 2611.5 of the Revenue and Taxation Code is amended to read:

2611.5.

- (a) At the option of a county and when authorized by resolution of the board of supervisors pursuant to Article 4 (commencing with Section 29370) of Chapter 2 of Division 3 of Title 3 of the Government Code, a cash difference fund may be used to increase the amount tendered to the county for the payment of any tax, assessments, penalty, cost cost, or interest which that is due and owing the county, when a difference of ten twenty dollars (\$10) (\$20) or less exists. A record of each use of the fund shall be maintained, containing sufficient information to identify the name of the person whose account was credited and listing the amount of the difference.
- (b) Notwithstanding any provision of law, including Sections 29372, 29373, 29374, and 29375 of the Government Code, the cash difference fund may be expended, maintained, or replenished by accounting entries into a cash difference account and an overage account maintained in the county automated accounting system. All transfers between the fund and the accounts may be made and retained in electronic data processing equipment and no written report pursuant to Section 29073 29373 of the Government Code, warrant, special warrant, or check warrant need be prepared by the auditor or treasurer. If approved pursuant to Section 29380.1 of the Government Code, replenishment of the cash difference account may be accomplished by the county auditor by a journal entry or electronic funds transfer from the county's general fund.
- (c) When an amount paid to the county on any tax, assessment, penalty, cost, and interest exceed the amount due the county and the excess does not exceed ten twenty dollars (\$10), (\$20), the excess amount may be deposited into the overage account. If the excess amount is not so deposited, it shall be refunded to the person making the payment.

SEC. 3.

Section 2635 of the Revenue and Taxation Code is amended to read:

2635.

When the amount of taxes paid exceeds the amount due by more than ten twenty dollars (\$10), (\$20), the tax collector shall send notice of the overpayment to the taxpayer. The notice shall be mailed to the taxpayer's last known address and shall state the amount of overpayment and that a refund claim may be filed pursuant to Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 5096) of Part 9.

SEC. 4.

Section 4675 of the Revenue and Taxation Code is amended to read:

- (a) Any party of interest in the property may file with the county a claim for the excess proceeds, in proportion to his or her that person's interest held with others of equal priority in the property at the time of sale, at any time prior to the expiration of one year following the recordation of the tax collector's deed to the purchaser. The claim shall be postmarked on or before the one-year expiration date to be considered timely.
- (b) After the property has been sold, a party of interest in the property at the time of the sale may assign his or her their right to claim the excess proceeds only by a dated, written instrument that

explicitly states that the right to claim the excess proceeds is being assigned, and only after each party to the proposed assignment has disclosed to each other party to the proposed assignment all facts of which he or she that party is aware relating to the value of the right that is being assigned. Any attempted assignment that does not comply with these requirements shall have no effect. This paragraph shall apply only with respect to assignments on or after the effective date of this paragraph.

- (c) Any person or entity who in any way acts on behalf of, or in place of, any party of interest with respect to filing a claim for any excess proceeds shall submit proof with the claim that the amount and source of excess proceeds have been disclosed to the party of interest and that the party of interest has been advised of his or her their right to file a claim for the excess proceeds on his or her their own behalf directly with the county at no cost.
- (d) The claims shall contain any information and proof deemed necessary by the board of supervisors to establish the claimant's rights to all or any portion of the excess proceeds.
- (e) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), no sooner than one year following the recordation of the tax collector's deed to the purchaser, and if the excess proceeds have been claimed by any party of interest as provided herein, the excess proceeds shall be distributed on order of the board of supervisors to the parties of interest who have claimed the excess proceeds in the order of priority set forth in subdivisions (a) and (b). For the purposes of this article, parties of interest and their order of priority are:
- (A) First, lienholders of record prior to the recordation of the tax deed to the purchaser in the order of their priority.
- (B) Second, any person with title of record to all or any portion of the property prior to the recordation of the tax deed to the purchaser.
- (2) (A) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), if the board of supervisors has been petitioned to rescind the tax sale pursuant to Section 3731, any excess proceeds shall not be distributed to the parties of interest as provided by paragraph (1) sooner than one year following the date the board of supervisors determines the tax sale should not be rescinded, and only if the person who petitioned the board of supervisors pursuant to Section 3731 has not commenced a proceeding in court pursuant to Section 3725.
- (B) If a proceeding has been commenced in a court pursuant to Section 3725, any excess proceeds shall not be distributed to the parties of interest as provided by paragraph (1) until a final court order is issued.
- (f) In the event that a person with title of record is deceased at the time of the distribution of the excess proceeds, the heirs may submit an affidavit pursuant to Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 13100) of Part 1 of Division 8 of the Probate Code, to support their claim for excess proceeds.
- (g) Any action or proceeding to review the decision of the board of supervisors shall be commenced within 90 days after the date of that decision of the board of supervisors.

SEC. 5.

Section 4717 of the Revenue and Taxation Code is amended to read:

4717.

(a) If a tax payment which is insufficient to cover the amount of taxes due and payable is received by the tax collector of a county that has elected to follow the procedure authorized by this chapter,

the tax collector shall place the tax payment in a trust fund and immediately notify the taxpayer of the deficiency.

- (b) In the case of a deficiency in the payment of secured taxes, the taxpayer may pay the balance due until the date on which the property becomes tax defaulted by operation of law. If payment of the balance due is not received on or before that date, the insufficient payment shall be returned to the taxpayer, and shall become tax defaulted in the usual manner as provided in this code.
- (c) In the case of a deficiency in the payment of unsecured taxes, the taxpayer may pay the balance due within six months after the date of the insufficient payment. If payment of the balance due is not made within that time, the tax collector or other officer collecting unsecured taxes shall credit the amount of the insufficient payment on the unsecured roll.
- (d) If payment of the balance due is made within the time specified in this section, any delinquent penalty which attaches by operation of law shall be computed only upon the additional amount required to bring the payment to a nondelinquent status.
- (e) The county auditor shall make the necessary adjustments in the tax rolls and in the tax and penalty charges.
- (f) The tax collector may accept payments which are within ten twenty dollars (\$10) (\$20) of the tax due as payment in full. The auditor or controller shall prescribe methods for accounting and adjusting their accounts in this matter.
- (g) The provisions of this section shall become effective in any county when authorized by resolution adopted by majority vote of the board of supervisors of the county.

SEC. 6.

Section 5097.2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code is amended to read:

5097.2.

Notwithstanding Sections 5096 and 5097, any taxes paid before or after delinquency may be refunded by the county tax collector or the county auditor, within four years after the date of payment, if:

- (a) Paid more than once.
- (b) The amount paid exceeds the amount due on the property as shown on the roll by an amount greater than ten twenty dollars (\$10). (\$20).
- (c) The amount paid exceeds the amount due on the property as the result of corrections to the roll or cancellations after those taxes were paid.
- (d) In any other case, where a claim for refund is made under penalty of perjury and is for an amount less than ten twenty dollars (\$10). (\$20).
- (e) The amount paid exceeds the amount due on the property as the result of a reduction attributable to a hearing before an assessment appeals board or an assessment hearing officer.

SB 791, Chapter 333

Property taxation: valuation: certified aircraft.

Effective Date 9/20/2019

SECTION 1.

Section 441 of the Revenue and Taxation Code is amended to read:

- (a) Each person owning taxable personal property, other than a manufactured home subject to Part 13 (commencing with Section 5800), having an aggregate cost of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) or more for any assessment year shall file a signed property statement with the assessor. Every person owning personal property that does not require the filing of a property statement or real property shall, upon request of the assessor, file a signed property statement. Failure of the assessor to request or secure the property statement does not render any assessment invalid.
- (b) The property statement shall be declared to be true under the penalty of perjury and filed annually with the assessor between the lien date and 5 p.m. on April 1. The penalty provided by Section 463 applies for property statements not filed by May 7. If May 7 falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, a property statement that is mailed and postmarked on the next business day shall be deemed to have been filed between the lien date and 5 p.m. on May 7. If, on the dates specified in this subdivision, the county's offices are closed for the entire day, that day is considered a legal holiday for purposes of this section.
- (c) The property statement may be filed with the assessor through the United States mail, properly addressed with postage prepaid. For purposes of determining the date upon which the property statement is deemed filed with the assessor, the date of postmark as affixed by the United States Postal Service, or the date certified by a bona fide private courier service on the envelope containing the application, shall control. This subdivision shall be applicable to every taxing agency, including, but not limited to, a chartered city and county, or chartered city.
- (d) (1) At any time, as required by the assessor for assessment purposes, every person shall make available for examination information or records regarding their property or any other personal property located on premises they own or control. In this connection details of property acquisition transactions, construction and development costs, rental income, and other data relevant to the determination of an estimate of value are to be considered as information essential to the proper discharge of the assessor's duties.
- (2) (A) Upon written request of an assessor, the assessee or the assessee's designated representative shall transmit the information or records described in paragraph (1) by mail, or in electronic format if the information or records are available in electronic format or have been previously digitized. This paragraph shall not be construed or interpreted to limit the assessor's authority to also examine information or records described in paragraph (1).
- (B) Information or records requested pursuant to this paragraph shall be transmitted within a reasonable time period.
- (3) (A) This subdivision shall also apply to an owner-builder or an owner-developer of new construction that is sold to a third party, is constructed on behalf of a third party, or is constructed for the purpose of selling that property to a third party.
- (B) The owner-builder or owner-developer of new construction described in subparagraph (A), shall, within 45 days of receipt of a written request by the assessor for information or records, provide the assessor with all information and records regarding that property. The information and records provided to the assessor shall include the total consideration provided either by the purchaser or on behalf of the purchaser that was paid or provided either, as part of or outside of the purchase agreement, including, but not limited to, consideration paid or provided for the

purchase or acquisition of upgrades, additions, or for any other additional or supplemental work performed or arranged for by the owner-builder or owner-developer on behalf of the purchaser.

- (e) In the case of a corporate owner of property, the property statement shall be signed either by an officer of the corporation or an employee or agent who has been designated in writing by the board of directors to sign the statements on behalf of the corporation.
- (f) In the case of property owned by a bank or other financial institution and leased to an entity other than a bank or other financial institution, the property statement shall be submitted by the owner bank or other financial institution.
- (g) The assessor may refuse to accept any property statement the assessor determines to be in error.
- (h) If a taxpayer fails to provide information to the assessor pursuant to subdivision (d) and introduces any requested materials or information at any assessment appeals board hearing, the assessor may request and shall be granted a continuance for a reasonable period of time. The continuance shall extend the two-year period specified in subdivision (c) of Section 1604 for a period of time equal to the period of the continuance.
- (i) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, every person required to file a property statement pursuant to this section shall be permitted to amend that property statement until May 31 of the year in which the property statement is due, for errors and omissions not the result of willful intent to erroneously report. The penalty authorized by Section 463 does not apply to an amended statement received prior to May 31, provided the original statement is not subject to penalty pursuant to subdivision (b). The amended property statement shall otherwise conform to the requirements of a property statement as provided in this article.
- (j) This subdivision shall apply to the oil, gas, and mineral extraction industry only. Any information that is necessary to file a true, correct, and complete statement shall be made available by the assessor, upon request, to the taxpayer by mail or at the office of the assessor by February 28. For each business day beyond February 28 that the information is unavailable, the filing deadline in subdivision (b) shall be extended in that county by one business day, for those statements affected by the delay. In no case shall the filing deadline be extended beyond June 1 or the first business day thereafter.
- (k) The assessor may accept the filing of a property statement by the use of electronic media. In lieu of the signature required by subdivision (a) and the declaration under penalty of perjury required by subdivision (b), property statements filed using electronic media shall be authenticated pursuant to methods specified by the assessor and approved by the board. Electronic media includes, but is not limited to, computer modem, magnetic media, optical disk, and facsimile machine.
- (I) (1) After receiving the notice required by Section 1162, the manager in control of a fleet of fractionally owned aircraft shall file with the lead county assessor's office one signed property statement for all of its aircraft that have acquired situs in the state, as described in Section 1161.
- (2) Flight data required to compute fractionally owned aircraft allocation under Section 1161 shall be segregated by airport.
- (m) (1) After receiving the notice required by paragraph (5) of subdivision (b) of Section 1153.5, a commercial air carrier whose certificated aircraft is subject to Article 6 (commencing with Section 1150) of Chapter 5 shall file with the lead county assessor's office designated under Section

- 1153.5 one signed property statement for its personal property at all airport locations and fixtures at all airport locations.
- (2) Each commercial air carrier may file one schedule for all of its certificated aircraft that have acquired situs in this state under Section 1151.
- (3) Flight data required to compute certificated aircraft allocation under Section 1152 and subdivision (g) of Section 202 of Title 18 of the California Code of Regulations shall be segregated by airport location. Each commercial air carrier shall report this flight data for the entire state, segregated by county and airport, to the lead county assessor's office designated under Section 1153.5.

SEC. 2.

Section 1152 of the Revenue and Taxation Code is amended to read:

1152.

For fiscal years before the 2020–21 fiscal year, the allocation formula to be used by each assessor is as follows:

- (a) The time in state factor is the proportionate amount of time, both in the air and on the ground, that certificated aircraft have spent within the state during a representative period as compared to the total time in the representative period. For purposes of this subdivision, all time, both in the air and on the ground, that certificated aircraft have spent within the state prior to the aircraft's first entry into the revenue service of the air carrier in control of the aircraft on the current lien date shall be excluded from the time in state factor. This factor shall be multiplied by 75 percent.
- (b) The arrivals and departures factor is the proportionate number of arrivals in and departures from airports within the state of certificated aircraft during a representative period as compared to the total number of arrivals in and departures from airports during the representative period. This factor shall be multiplied by 25 percent.
- (c) For the 1983–84 fiscal year until the 2020–21 fiscal year, inclusive, in computing the time-in-state factor, on each occasion during the representative period that a certificated aircraft has spent 720 or more consecutive hours on the ground, all ground time in excess of 168 hours shall be excluded from the time in state attributable to that aircraft.
- (d) The time-in-state factor shall be added to the arrivals and departures factor.
- (e) The figure produced by application of subdivision (d) equals the allocation to be applied to full cash value to determine the value to which the assessment ratio shall be applied.
- (f) This section shall become inoperative on January 1, 2020.

SEC. 3.

Section 1152 is added to the Revenue and Taxation Code, to read:

1152.

For the 2020–21 fiscal year and for each fiscal year thereafter, the allocation formula to be used by each assessor is as follows:

(a) The proportionate amount of time, both in the air and on the ground, that certificated aircraft have spent within the state during the 12-month period from January 1 through December 31 of the previous year immediately preceding the lien date as compared to the total time in the 12-month period from January 1 through December 31 of the previous year immediately preceding the lien date.

- (b) Time in the air consists of flight time and taxi time within California's borders. Time in the air shall be based on the State Board of Equalization's "California Standard Flight Times" table in the most recently published Letter to Assessors that addresses intrastate and interstate standard flight times. These standard times shall be multiplied by the number of departures to and from the airports listed in the Letter to Assessors.
- (c) Ground time is all time in the state that is not flight or taxi time. Ground time at each airport shall be reported on a summary basis by fleet type pursuant to subdivision (m) of Section 441. All ground time allocated to heavy maintenance that requires a certificated aircraft or scheduled air taxi to be removed from revenue service shall be excluded. An air carrier claiming an exclusion for heavy maintenance time shall identify such maintenance and supply sufficient documentation that will enable the assessor to confirm the amount of time the aircraft was not in revenue service. Routine line maintenance that does not require removal from revenue service shall not be excluded from time allocable to the airport.
- (d) Time allocable to each airport is the amount of time a certificated aircraft or scheduled air taxi is on the ground at the airport computed pursuant to subdivision (c), plus the portion of incoming and outgoing flight time computed pursuant to subdivision (b).
- (e) All time, both in the air and on the ground, that certificated aircraft have spent within the state prior to the aircraft's first entry into the revenue service of the air carrier in control of the aircraft on the current lien date shall be excluded from the time-in-state factor.
- (f) This section shall become operative on January 1, 2020.

SEC. 4.

Section 1153 of the Revenue and Taxation Code is repealed.

SEC. 5.

Section 1153.5 is added to the Revenue and Taxation Code, to read:

1153.5.

- (a) The Aircraft Advisory Subcommittee of the California Assessors' Association shall, after soliciting input from commercial air carriers operating in the state, do both of the following:
- (1) On or before March 1, 2020, and on or before each March 1 thereafter, designate a lead county assessor's office for each commercial air carrier operating certificated aircraft in this state in that assessment year.
- (2) Every third year thereafter, redesignate a lead county assessor's office for each of these air carriers, unless an air carrier and its existing lead county assessor's office concur to waive this redesignation.
- (b) The lead county assessor's office described in subdivision (a) shall do all of the following:
- (1) Calculate an unallocated value of the certificated aircraft of each commercial air carrier to which that assessor is designated.
- (2) Electronically transmit to the assessor of each county in which the property described in paragraph (1) has situs for the assessment year the values determined by the lead county assessor's office under paragraph (1).
- (3) Receive the property statement, as described in subdivision (m) of Section 441, of each commercial air carrier to which the assessor is designated.

- (4) Receive and electronically transmit to the assessor of each affected county flight data received pursuant to paragraph (3) of subdivision (m) of Section 441.
- (5) Lead the audit team described in subdivision (d) when that team is conducting an audit of a commercial air carrier to which the assessor is designated.
- (6) Notify, in writing, each commercial air carrier for which the assessor has been designated of this designation on or before the first March 15 that follows that designation.
- (c) (1) Notwithstanding subdivision (b), the county assessor of each county in which the personal property of a commercial air carrier has situs for an assessment year is solely responsible for assessing that property, applying the allocation formula set forth in Section 1152, and enrolling the value of the property in that county, but, in determining the allocated fleet value for each make, model, and series of certificated aircraft of a commercial air carrier, the assessor may consult with the lead county assessor's office designated for that commercial air carrier.
- (2) The lead county assessor's office is subject to Section 322 of Title 18 of the California Code of Regulations and Sections 408, 451, and 1606 to the same extent as the assessor described in paragraph (1).
- (d) (1) Notwithstanding Section 469, an audit of a commercial air carrier shall be conducted once every four years on a centralized basis by an audit team of auditor-appraisers from at least one, but not more than three, counties, as determined by the Aircraft Advisory Subcommittee of the California Assessors' Association. An audit, so conducted, shall encompass all of the California Personal Property and fixtures of the air carrier and is deemed to be made on behalf of each county for which an audit would otherwise be required under Section 469.
- (2) The audit team described in paragraph (1) shall do both of the following:
- (A) Be the point of contact for all aircraft-related questions to or from each county and the commercial air carrier.
- (B) Ensure that all aircraft-related concerns regarding the taxable value of the aircraft and aircraft parts are resolved with each county before finalizing the aircraft assessment with the commercial air carrier.

SEC. 6.

Section 1157 is added to the Revenue and Taxation Code, to read:

- (a) After consultation with the California Assessors' Association and representatives of commercial air carriers, the board shall, by emergency regulation, promulgate regulations and produce forms and instructions necessary to implement the allocation formula established for the 2020–21 fiscal year, and for each fiscal year thereafter, pursuant to Section 1152.
- (b) An emergency regulation adopted pursuant to subdivision (a) shall be adopted in accordance with Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code, and, for purposes of that chapter, including Sections 11346.1 and 11349.6 of the Government Code, the adoption of the regulation is an emergency and shall be considered by the Office of Administrative Law as necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, and general welfare.

SEC. 7.

If the Commission on State Mandates determines that this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

SEC. 8.

This act is an urgency statute necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety within the meaning of Article IV of the California Constitution and shall go into immediate effect. The facts constituting the necessity are:

In order to ensure the changes proposed by this act, which improve the certainty, accuracy, and efficiency of certificated aircraft assessment, are effective for the 2020–21 fiscal year, it is necessary that this act take effect immediately.