AMERICAN NURSES ASSOCIATION
CALIFORNIA

# CA Legislative Report 2026

Dr. Marketa Houskova, DNP, RN
CEO

# Bills in Numbers

Legislative session 2026

**1846**
TOTAL INTRODUCED

**1263**
in
Assembly

**583**
in
Senate

✓ **1040**
**SIGNED**
(78.7%)

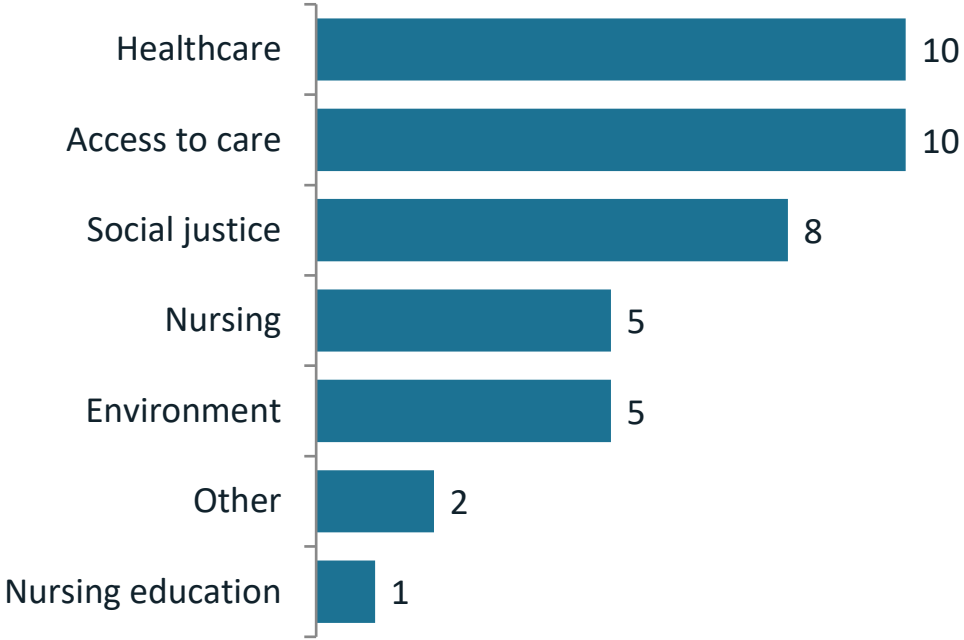
✗ **120**
**VETOED**
(10.3%)

# Governor's action

Signings and vetoes on the lists

| Sept 20, 2025 | Sept 20, 2026 | Sept 27, 2026 | Sept 28, 2026 | Sept 30, 2026 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| AB 49 | SB 1302 | AB 1637 | AB 762 | SB 837 |
| SB 81 | SB 1304 | AB 1843 | AB 1901 | AB 1876 |
| SB 98 | **AB 2164 vetoed** | AB 1906 | AB 2244 | AB 1604 |
| SB 627 | | SB 964 | | **AB 1940 vetoed** |
| SB 805 | | **AB 2282 vetoed** | | **SB 903 vetoed** |
| | | | | **AB 2575 vetoed** |

# Bills by focus area



# Nursing

Licensing boards and scope of practice

## SB 1302 Wahab

SIGNED

**Nursing**

Extends the Board of Registered Nursing to 2031 and updates practice and school rules.

## SB 1304 Wahab

SIGNED

**Respiratory Care Practice Act**

Extends the Respiratory Care Board to 2031; widens LVN respiratory tasks.

Ch. 431 · Signed Sept 20, 2026

## AB 1696 Stefani

SIGNED

**Nurse-midwives in emergency care**

Nurse-midwives need no physician supervision in labor and delivery or obstetric triage.

Ch. 484 · Per tracking sites

## AB 1973 Aguiar-Curry

SIGNED*

**Abortion: authorized providers**

Removes the first-trimester limit and sets NP, nurse-midwife, and PA training rules.

Ch. 487 · Per tracking sites

# Nursing education

School oversight and clinical training capacity

## SB 1302 Wahab

SIGNED

### School oversight

- Posts approved nursing schools online
- Aligns inspections with 2020 NCSBN guidelines
- Sets simulation best-practice rules
- Makes reduced clinical hours permanent during disruptions

## SB 1271 Reyes

SIGNED*

### Midwifery preceptorship data

- Medical Board surveys midwives by April 2027
- Asks who can supervise student midwives
- Shares data with HCAI for workforce planning
- Sunsets June 30, 2029

# Access to care

Coverage, screening, and cost barriers

## AB 1843 Elhawary

SIGNED

**Hepatitis C drugs**

Bars prior authorization for medically necessary hepatitis C antiviral drugs.

Ch. 552 · Signed Sept 27, 2026

## AB 1906 Aguiar-Curry

SIGNED

**Cervical cancer home test kits**

Plans and Medi-Cal cover cervical cancer screening and home kits without cost sharing.

Ch. 560 · Signed Sept 27, 2026

## SB 964 Smallwood-Cuevas

SIGNED

**Prescription dose adjustments**

Dose changes need no prior authorization; plans must answer requests within 72 hours.

Ch. 663 · Signed Sept 27, 2026

## AB 2292 Ward

SIGNED*

**Disability certificate fees**

Doctors may not charge fees to complete disability benefit certification forms.

Ch. 734 · Per tracking sites

# Access to care (cont.)

Medi-Cal, campus care, veterans, and clinics

## AB 2160 Rodriguez

SIGNED

**Medi-Cal lactation services**

State must clarify Medi-Cal lactation coverage in new guidance by July 2027.

Ch. 488 · Per tracking sites

## AB 2540 Stefani

SIGNED

**Medication abortion on campus**

Campus clinics must promote medication abortion; community colleges offer it by 2029.

Ch. 490 · Single source

## AB 2531 Irwin

SIGNED

**Reproductive health for veterans**

Lets providers use equity-program grants to serve uninsured veterans.

Sent to Governor Sept 3

## SB 526 Perez

SIGNED

**Primary care clinic licensing**

Streamlines affiliate-clinic licenses and relocations for primary care clinics.

Sent to Governor Sept 4

# SB 81 in detail

Arreguín: immigration enforcement at health facilities, signed Sept 20, 2025

## Key provisions

SIGNED

- Immigration status becomes protected medical information
- No disclosure for enforcement without a judicial warrant or court order
- Facilities set visitor procedures and train staff
- Staff report any enforcement request to management or counsel

**Urgency** — Took effect at signing

**Ch. 123** — Statutes of 2025

**Sept 20** — Signed, 2025

# Healthcare

Coverage, AI, and medical records

## SB 503

Weber Pierson

### AI in health care

Developers and users of clinical AI tools must identify and reduce the risk of biased outcomes.

SIGNED

Sept 30, 2026

## AB 1864

Berman

### Gene Synthesis

Prohibits sale of  nucleic acid synthesis equipment without adhering to manufacturing Framework

SIGNED

Sept 27, 2026

## AB 224

Bonta

### Essential health benefits

Sets a new 2027 benchmark plan that adds specified fertility services and durable medical equipment.

SIGNED

Oct 13, 2025

# Healthcare (cont.)

Inhalants, vaping, and food standards

## SB 936

Blakespear

### Nitrous oxide sales

Bans retail sale of large or flavored nitrous oxide containers and inhalation devices.

SIGNED

Sept 18, 2026

## AB 762

Irwin

### Disposable vapes

Bans disposable battery-embedded vapes: manufacture from 2027, sales from 2028.

SIGNED

Sept 28, 2026

## AB 2244

Gabriel

### Non-ultraprocessed food seal

Creates a voluntary certification seal; large grocers with certified items must stock three.

SIGNED

Sept 28, 2026

# Healthcare (cont.)

Maternal health, public safety, and kratom

## AB 1910

Boerner Horvath

### Postpartum pelvic floor health

State must post guidance urging patients to raise pelvic floor concerns at postpartum visits.

SIGNED

Sept 27, 2016

## AB 1974

Stefani

### Voluntary firearm storage

Law enforcement may hold firearms temporarily for safekeeping to help prevent suicide and violence.

SIGNED

Sept 26, 2026

# Social justice

Immigration enforcement and policing

## AB 49 Muratsuchi

SIGNED

**Immigration enforcement at schools**

Bars officers from nonpublic school areas without a judicial warrant; limits data sharing.

Ch. 122 · Sept 20, 2025

## SB 98 Pérez

SIGNED

**School notice of enforcement**

Schools and colleges must alert their communities when enforcement is confirmed.

Ch. 124 · Sept 20, 2025

## SB 627 Wiener

SIGNED

**Officer face coverings**

Makes it a crime for officers, including federal, to wear face coverings on duty, with exceptions.

Ch. 125 · Sept 20, 2025

## SB 805 Pérez

SIGNED

**Officer identification**

Officers must display agency and name or badge number; impersonating any officer is a crime.

Ch. 126 · Sept 20, 2025

# Social justice (cont.)

Anti-discrimination and legal protections

## AB 1940

Calderon

### Menopause discrimination

Would have added menopause-related conditions to protected sex-discrimination categories.

VETOED

Vetoed Sept 30, 2026

## AB 1876

Addis

### Coverage nondiscrimination

Bars health plans from discriminating by race, sex, gender identity, disability, and more.

SIGNED

Sept 30, 2026

## AB 1854

Krell

### Legally protected health care

Extends protections for legally protected reproductive and gender-affirming care.

SIGNED

Sept 27, 2026

# Environment

Toxics, wildfire recovery, and disaster readiness

## AB 1901 Berman

SIGNED

**Diaper ingredient disclosure**

Makers must post every intentionally added chemical and its function online by 2029.

Ch. 719 · Sept 28, 2026

## AB 1604 Stefani

SIGNED

**BPA in paper receipts**

Bans intentionally added BPA in receipts from 2028 and any bisphenol from 2029.

Ch. 882 · Signed Sept 30, 2026

## SB 904 Seyarto

SIGNED*

**Wildfire recovery**

Speeds rebuilding after wildfire emergencies and requires electronic permit submissions.

Ch. 771 · Per tracking sites

## SB 837 Reyes

SIGNED

**Disaster preparedness education**

ADRC programs must teach older adults and people with disabilities disaster readiness.

Signed Sept 30, 2026

# Public Health

Other public health issues

## SB 1167

Blakespear

### Electric bicycles

Separates e-bikes from mopeds, sets battery and labeling rules, limits off-highway use.

SIGNED

Sept 30, 2026

## AB 1883

Bryan

### Workplace surveillance tools

Bars AI tools that collect neural data or read worker emotions, with exceptions.

SIGNED

Sept 30, 2026

# Vetoed: AB 2575

Ortega: AI and clinicians' professional judgment

## AB 2575 Ortega

VETOED

### Health care services: artificial intelligence

Would have let direct-patient-care workers use professional judgment, including overriding AI clinical recommendations, and barred employer retaliation. Developers and users of clinical AI could not blame a worker's failure to override the tool.

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**48–15** Assembly vote

**21–10** Senate vote

**Sept 30** Veto date, 2026

# Vetoed: SB 903

Padilla: AI in mental health care

**SB 903** Padilla

VETOED

### Mental health professionals: artificial intelligence

Would have limited AI in psychotherapy to administrative or supporting roles, required patient consent for AI recording or screening, and barred offering therapy through companion chatbots.

The message is posted on gov.ca.gov as VETO-msg-SB-903.pdf.

**39–0** Senate vote

**74–1** Assembly vote

**Sept 30** Veto date, 2026

# Vetoed: AB 2282

Alanis: rural emergency stabilization unit

## AB 2282 Alanis

VETOED

### Health facilities: emergency medical services

Would have required a waiver letting a Del Puerto Health Care District hospital run a rural emergency stabilization care unit, relaxing some acute care licensing rules until a replacement hospital is built nearby.

The message is posted on gov.ca.gov as VETO-msg-AB-2282.pdf.

**77–0** Assembly vote

**2** Senate no votes

**Sept 27** Veto date, 2026

# Vetoed: AB 2164

Bauer-Kahan: out-of-state care and extradition

## AB 2164 Bauer-Kahan

VETOED

### Legally protected activities

Would have extended protections to people who aided lawful reproductive or gender-affirming care while in another state, and barred the Governor from honoring extradition requests over such care.

**57–14** Assembly vote

**29–9** Senate vote

**Sept 20** Veto date, 2026

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Thank you for your time.

**Marketa@anacalifornia.org**