

Summary of Aviation Legislation in California

Updated by: Caltrans, Division of Aeronautics
On February 23, 2010
2009-10 Regular Session

The second year of this session began on January 4, 2010, and the deadline to introduce new bills was February 19. A short summary of each bill is provided below. Read the bill's full text plus analysis at the official website for California legislative information at <www.leginfo.ca.gov> Click "Bill Information" and Search for the bill number.

Bill Number & Author	Subject	1 st Policy	1 st Fiscal	1 st Floor	2 nd Policy	2 nd Fiscal	2 nd Floor	Gov. Desk
AB 1660 (Salas)	Emergency Aircraft Flights	Trans						
Color Code: Yellow indicates upcoming hearing/vote and date; Green indicates passage; Red check indicates Governor's signature.								

AB 1660, *Assembly Member Salas-Chula Vista, District 79 (Emergency Aircraft Flights)*

This bill would amend the Public Utilities Code regarding emergency aircraft flights. Such flights are exempt from adopted local ordinances with respect to hours of the day, aircraft noise or type of aircraft. This bill would also exempt a non-emergency flight of aircraft back to their base from the adopted local ordinances.

The Latest – This bill was introduced on January 19, and referred to the Committee on Transportation on January 27.

AB 2173, *Assembly Member Beall-San Jose, District 24 (Emergency Air Medical Transportation Providers)*

This bill provides for increased Medi-Cal funding of emergency air ambulance transportation by imposing a \$3 fee on each motor vehicle violation in California, with the exception of parking violations.

The Latest—This bill was introduced on February 19, 2010.

ABX4 10, *Committee on Budget, Transportation*

This budget trailer bill became law on July 28, 2009. "Section 3" of the bill amended the Aeronautics Act in the Public Utilities Code directing a transfer of \$4.0 million from the Aeronautics Account to the General Fund along with a suspension of the Division's authority to issue new Annual Credit Grants, Acquisition & Development funds, and AIP Local Match for fiscal year 2009/2010. Here is the whole section of the bill related to the Aeronautics Act:

"SEC. 3. Section 21683.3 is added to the Public Utilities Code, to

read:

21683.3. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this article, the grant or funding programs described in Sections 21682, 21683, and 21683.1 are suspended for the 2009-10 fiscal year.

(b) Upon the order of the Director of Finance, the Controller shall transfer four million dollars (\$4,000,000) from the Aeronautics Account to the General Fund.

(c) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2011, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2011, deletes or extends that date."

AB 1272, *Assembly Member Hill-San Mateo, District 19 (Emergency medical services: trauma center)*

This bill relates to the Emergency Medical Services System and designated trauma centers. As local services plan their systems they will be required to include air transportation of trauma patients to, and between trauma centers. This bill no longer specifically refers to helicopter landing pads and the permitting process, the Aeronautics Act or CEQA as was called for in previous versions.

The Latest – 1/20/10 This bill was re-referred to the Committee on Health but was not heard by them by the time committee hearings closed last year.

SB 737, *Senator Negrete McLeod-Chino, District 32 (Airports: airport land use commissions)*

This bill regarding Airport Land Use Commissions is now dead.

SB 481, *Senator Cox-Fair Oaks, District 01 (Airports: wildlife)*

This bill will protect airport officials from state sanctions for actions taken in accordance with certain U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service permits.

10/11/09 - This bill was approved and is now Chaptered in law.

SB 649, *Senator Ashburn-Bakersfield, District 18 (Transportation)*

"On or before June 30, 2010, the Department of Transportation shall transfer, for fair market value, ownership of 577 acres known as Site A of the Mojave Bypass property in Kern County, except for that portion of the property constituting the right-of-way for State Highway Route 14, to the East Kern Airport District for open-pace purposes."

8/06/09 - This bill is now Chaptered in law as written above.