

CONCURRENCE IN SENATE AMENDMENTS

CSA1 Bill Id:AB 1322 Author:(Committee on Agriculture)

As Amended Ver:August 27, 2025

Majority vote

SUMMARY

This bill makes various changes to the California Grape Rootstock Improvement Commission (CGRIC), the California Avocado Commission, the California Apple Commission, the Olive Oil Commission of California (OOC), and Grape Crush annual report dates.

Senate Amendments

- 1) Extends the date assessments are payable to the CGRIC from January 10 of each year to January 31 of each year, move the survey collection enforcement date from February 10 to March 15 and the publishing date of the grape crush report from March 10 to April 30 of each year.
- 2) Clarifies that the secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) may refuse to issue, renew or may suspend or revoke a license of an applicant that has failed to pay any assessment levied pursuant to this code on nursery stock or products comprising of nursery stock.
- 3) Clarifies that failure to any CGRIC assessment levied pursuant to this code on nursery stock or products comprising nursery stock, can cause suspension or revocation of a license.

COMMENTS

The purpose of marketing programs is to provide agricultural producers and handlers an organizational structure, operating under government sanction, which allows them to solve production and marketing problems collectively that they could not address individually. A California agricultural marketing commission is a body, often established by industry producers, that promotes and regulates the marketing of a specific agricultural commodity, such as apples or walnuts. These commissions are typically funded by assessments on producers and can be overseen by California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA). Their activities usually include promotion, research, and maintaining quality standards.

Current marketing programs' activities include commodity promotion, research, and maintenance of quality standards. Commissions provide a structure for solving problems and provide a vehicle for collecting funds to support activities. There are almost 50 commissions in California.

This bill also extends the date assessments are payable to the CGRIC from January 10 of each year to January 31 of each year, move the survey collection enforcement date from February 10 to March 15 and the publishing date of the grape crush report from March 10 to April 30 of each year.

According to the Author

Each year, various private and public groups discover minor problems with state statutes affecting agriculture and policies under the jurisdiction of the California Department of Agriculture. These minor problems do not warrant separate and costly bills. According to the Legislative Analyst, the cost of producing a bill in 2001-02 was \$17,890.

Legislators respond by combining several of these minor topics into an annual "omnibus bill." In 2022, for example, the Assembly Committee on Agriculture (Ag Com) omnibus bill was AB

1959 (Ag Com) which contained noncontroversial statutory changes to three areas of local government law, avoiding approximately \$35,780 in legislative costs. Although this practice may violate a strict interpretation of the single-subject and germaneness rules as presented in *Californians for an Open Primary v. McPherson* (2006), it is an expeditious and relatively inexpensive way to respond to multiple requests.

Arguments in Support

Many of the proposed changes in AB 1322 are non-substantive and technical in nature. Other amendments allow industry to be more competitive. For example, the proposed amendment to the Apple Commission would allow adoption of quality standards and product labeling standards by the secretary of the Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA), if requested by the commission. This authority is presently available to other commissions and in the case of apples, would increase consumer awareness that California apples are grown using the Nation's most rigorous environmental and labor standards. AB 1322 also seeks to amend the Grape Rootstock Commission by allowing the CDFA to expedite actions against those not in compliance with the law.

Arguments in Opposition

None on file.

FISCAL COMMENTS

- 1) For provisions related to the CGRC: CDFA reports minor and absorbable costs to the department's Nursery Services Program and Marketing Branch. Violations of the CGRC law that may lead to refusal, suspension, or revocation of a license to sell nursery stock are infrequent. Any costs related to investigations or hearings would be absorbed by existing staff and program budgets.
- 2) For provisions related to the Avocado Commission, Apple Commission, and OCCC: CDFA reports minor and absorbable costs to the General Fund and CDFA's budget. The commissions' operations are funded by a mandatory assessment levied on producers. The commissions reimburse CDFA for all ongoing direct and indirect expenses the department incurs in providing statutory oversight of the commissions.

VOTES:

ASM AGRICULTURE: 8-0-0

YES: Soria, Alanis, Aguiar-Curry, Connolly, Jeff Gonzalez, Hadwick, Irwin, Ransom

ASM APPROPRIATIONS: 15-0-0

YES: Wicks, Sanchez, Arambula, Calderon, Caloza, Dixon, Elhawary, Fong, Mark González, Hart, Pacheco, Pellerin, Solache, Ta, Tangipa

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 71-0-8

YES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez,

Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

ABS, ABST OR NV: Bryan, Chen, Ellis, Nguyen, Sanchez, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Wicks

SENATE FLOOR: 40-0-0

YES: Allen, Alvarado-Gil, Archuleta, Arreguín, Ashby, Becker, Blakespear, Cabaldon, Caballero, Cervantes, Choi, Cortese, Dahle, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grayson, Grove, Hurtado, Jones, Laird, Limón, McGuire, McNerney, Menjivar, Niello, Ochoa Bogh, Padilla, Pérez, Reyes, Richardson, Rubio, Seyarto, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern, Strickland, Umberg, Valladares, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

UPDATED

VERSION: August 27, 2025

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FN: 0001570