
SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Anna Caballero, Chair
2025 - 2026 Regular Session

AB 1530 (Committee on Emergency Management) - California Disaster Assistance Act

Version: May 23, 2025

Urgency: No

Hearing Date: August 18, 2025

Policy Vote: G.O. 15 - 0

Mandate: No

Consultant: Janelle Miyashiro

Bill Summary: AB 1530 requires, rather than authorizes, the Office of Emergency Services (OES) to establish a model process that would be made available to assist a community in recovering from an emergency proclaimed by the Governor, as specified. AB 1530 also requires OES to issue guidelines, rather than adopt regulations, related to provisions of the California Disaster Assistance Act (CDAA) authorizing eligible nonprofits to receive state assistance for the distribution of supplies and other disaster or emergency assistance during a declared state of emergency.

Fiscal Impact: OES reports:

- Total ongoing annual costs of approximately \$3.77 million for 17 additional positions to its Public Assistance and Individual Assistance Units and Financial Processing Unit (General Fund).
- Unknown significant increased General Fund cost pressures, ranging in the hundreds of millions of dollars, depending on future disaster response activity by community recovery partners. OES notes requiring the use of guidelines in lieu of formal regulations may accelerate implementation of CDAA programs, but may also increase demand for immediate state support and further increase General Fund exposure.

Background: The CDAA authorizes the Director of OES to administer a disaster assistance program that provides financial assistance from the state for costs incurred by local governments as a result of a disaster event. Funding for the repair, restoration, or replacement of public real property damaged or destroyed by a disaster is made available when the director concurs with a local emergency proclamation requesting state disaster assistance. The program also provides for the reimbursement of local government costs associated with certain emergency activities undertaken in response to a state of emergency proclaimed by the Governor. In addition, the program may provide matching fund assistance for cost sharing required under federal public assistance programs in response to a Presidential Major Disaster or Emergency Declaration.

Proposed Law:

- Requires, rather than authorizes, OES to establish a model process that would be made available to assist a community in recovering from an emergency proclaimed by the Governor.

- Requires, rather than authorizes, the model process to include specified elements, including measures to encourage the participation of private nonprofit organizations and how they may be eligible to receive state assistance for distribution of supplies and other disaster or emergency assistance activities resulting in extraordinary costs.
- Requires OES to issue guidelines, rather than adopt regulations, related to provisions of the CDAA authorizing eligible nonprofits to receive state assistance for the distribution of supplies and other disaster or emergency assistance during a declared state of emergency.

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