
SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Sabrina Cervantes, Chair
2025 - 2026 Regular Session

AB 2152 (Mark González) - California Environmental Quality Act: essential local fire station projects: judicial streamlining

Version: August 3, 2026

Urgency: No

Hearing Date: August 13, 2026

Policy Vote: E.Q. 7 - 0, JUD. 13 - 0

Mandate: No

Consultant: Ashley Ames

Bill Summary: This bill would establish expedited administrative and judicial review procedures under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for "essential local fire station projects," requiring the courts to resolve lawsuits within 270 days, to the extent feasible.

***** **ANALYSIS ADDENDUM – SUSPENSE FILE** *****

The following information is revised to reflect amendments
adopted by the committee on August 13, 2026

Fiscal Impact:

- This bill could result in potential cost pressure (Trial Court Trust Fund, General Fund) of an unknown amount to the courts to process and hear challenges to environmental reviews for essential local fire station projects on an expedited timeline. Expedited cases generally create costs and staffing pressures on the courts, as each review typically requires a judicial officer, research attorneys, and staff. Cost pressures would likely be offset by the higher filing fee. Under existing rules of court (that Judicial Council may amend to reference the specific projects in this bill), these reviews would be subject to a \$180,000 filing fee.

Committee Amendments: Committee amendments would require an environmental impact report for an essential local fire station project to include an assessment of alternatives and growth-inducing impacts.

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