

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 230
Author: Ransom (D), et al.
Amended: 6/8/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE: 4-0, 6/16/26

AYES: Caballero, Alvarado-Gil, McNerney, Padilla

NO VOTE RECORDED: Ashby

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 13-0, 6/23/26

AYES: Umberg, Niello, Allen, Ashby, Caballero, Durazo, Laird, Reyes, Stern,
Valladares, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 76-0, 1/26/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Pest control: Pierce's disease

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: 1) This bill extends the Pierce's Disease Control Program within the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA), and the Pierce's Disease Management Account within the CDFA Fund indefinitely. 2) This bill states the provisions of the bill will become inoperative on a specified date if the Secretary of CDFA finds that a favorable vote in a referendum has not been given for the continued implementation of the provisions regarding the Winegrape Pest and Disease Prevention Board. 3) This bill also changes the name of the Pierce's Disease and Glassy Winged Sharpshooter Board to the Winegrape Pest and Disease Prevention Board.

ANALYSIS: Existing law:

- 1) Establishes the Pierce's Disease Control Program (PDCP) within the CDFA. PDCP was established to slow the spread of the glassy-winged sharpshooter and

minimize the impact of Pierce's Disease in California (Food and Agricultural Code Section § 6046).

- 2) Establishes the Pierce's Disease Management Account to allow certain money to be used to combat Pierce's disease and its vectors.
- 3) States the PDCP and the Pierce's Disease Management Account shall become inoperative on March 1, 2031, and as of January 1, 2032, is repealed unless a later enacted statute that is enacted before January 1, 2032, deletes or extends the dates on which it becomes inoperative and is repealed.
- 4) Creates the Pierce's Disease and Glassy-winged Sharpshooter Board to help further the interests of the industry concerned. Existing law prescribes the functions and repeals these provisions on March 1, 2031 (Food and Agricultural Code Section § 6047.3).
- 5) Establishes that producers, handlers, or processors who are directly affected by a marketing order may vote under the California Marketing Act using a referendum method.
 - a) States approval of a referendum requires a specified percentage of the number of producers or handlers and a specified percentage of the volume of the commodity produced or handled during a given period.
 - b) Under the referendum procedure, a 30-day voting period is allowed with an extension not to exceed 15 days¹.

This bill:

- 1) Changes the name of the Pierce's Disease and Glassy-Winged Sharpshooter Board to the Winegrape Pest and Disease Prevention Board.
- 2) Extends the operation of the PDCP and the Pierce's Disease Management Account within CDFA indefinitely, except that this bill makes these provisions inoperative on a specified date if the Secretary finds that a favorable vote in a referendum has not been given for the continued implementation of the provisions regarding the Winegrape Pest and Disease Prevention Board.
- 3) States no later than June 30, 2030, the Secretary shall hold one or more public hearings to determine whether the operation of this article should be continued.

¹ <https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/mkt/mkt/refstats/>

Thereafter, the Secretary shall conduct the review process as necessary, but not less frequent than once every five years.

- 4) States if the Secretary finds a substantial question of opposition does not exist among affected producers under this article, the operation of this article shall continue in effect without a referendum.
- 5) States if the Secretary finds after a hearing that a substantial question of opposition exists among affected producers under this article regarding whether the operation of this article should be continued, the Secretary shall submit the article for approval using the following voting procedures set forth in this section and Sections 6047.22 to 6047.27, inclusive:
 - a) If the secretary determines the requirement for referendum has been met, the secretary shall establish a list of persons eligible to vote on the continued implementation of this article.
 - b) As used in this subdivision, “substantial question of opposition” means opposition to the substance of the petition among currently affected producers and is not intended to mean a particular number of producers.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: Yes Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

CA Assn of Winegrape Growers
Family Winemakers of California
Wine Institute

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the author:

“California produces some of the highest quality winegrapes in the world, supporting thousands of jobs, local communities, and a globally recognized industry. To protect the health of winegrapes across California, the Pierce’s Disease Control Program and the Pierce’s Disease/Glassy-winged Sharpshooter Board have helped protect California vineyards from devastating pests and diseases, preserving both growers’ livelihoods and the state’s agricultural heritage. The board and

program have expanded to include far more than Pierce's Disease prevention since their inception.

These programs are a shining example of the success of a strong public-private partnership between the California Department of Food and Agriculture and the winegrape producers who help guide and support these prevention and response efforts. AB 230 reaffirms California's commitment to safeguarding winegrapes from invasive pests and emerging threats to winegrape health by renaming the board the Winegrape Pest and Disease Prevention Board, a title that better reflects its broad mission and responsibilities. The bill also ensures the continued operation of these successful programs by removing the sunset date, providing the stability and long-term certainty needed to protect California vineyards for generations to come."

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 76-0, 1/26/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Papan, Celeste Rodriguez, Ta

Prepared by: Reichel Everhart / AGRI. / (916) 651-1508
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