

CONCURRENCE IN SENATE AMENDMENTS

AB 230 (Ransom)

As Amended June 8, 2026

Majority vote

SUMMARY

This bill would extend the Pierce's Disease Control Program within the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA), and the Pierce's Disease Management Account within the Department of Food and Agriculture Fund indefinitely. The bill would state the provisions of this 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. The bill also would change the name of the Pierce's Disease and Glassy Winged Sharpshooter (GWSS) Board to the Winegrape Pest and Disease Prevention Board.

Senate Amendments

Delete the sunset of March 1, 2036, and instead continue the program indefinitely. They would also rename the GWSS Board to the Winegrape Pest and Disease Prevention Board and expand the scope of the program to include other designated pests and diseases.

COMMENTS

The GWSS Program was created in 2000 after the passage of SB 671, Chapter 21 Statutes of 2000, and has been reauthorized in statute and by affirmative vote of assessed growers 5 times since. It was originally conceived as a means to combat GWSS, it has since expanded to address other pest issues such as vine mealybug (*planococcus ficus*) and red blotch virus. These amendments would avoid having to revisit authorization every five years and would instead require the Secretary to hold a hearing to determine if "substantial opposition exists" and if it does, then hold a referendum. This would save the program money as conducting referenda is not without significant expense.

According to the Author

"[This bill] 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."

Arguments in Support

From the California Association of Winegrape Growers, Family Winemakers of California and the Wine Institute:

"Continuing the Program and the Board would allow the wine industry, a notable economic driver in California, to continue to research, control, contain, and inspect with the goal of protecting California vineyards from pests and disease."

From the California Fresh Fruit Association:

"Continued authorization ensures that growers can maintain the momentum of innovation and protection that has been built over the past decades."

Arguments in Opposition

None on File.

FISCAL COMMENTS

According to the Senate Appropriations Committee, this bill, pursuant to Seante Rule 28.8, will have negligible state costs.

VOTES:

ASM AGRICULTURE: 8-0-0

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

ASM APPROPRIATIONS: 15-0-0

YES: Wicks, Hoover, Stefani, Calderon, Caloza, Dixon, Fong, Mark González, Krell, Bauer-Kahan, Pacheco, Pellerin, Solache, Ta, Tangipa

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 76-0-4

YES: 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

ABS, ABST OR NV: Arambula, Papan, Celeste Rodriguez, Ta

SENATE FLOOR: 39-0-1

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

ABS, ABST OR NV: Alvarado-Gil

UPDATED

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