
THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2475
Author: Committee on Emergency Management
Amended: 8/13/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE EMERGENCY MGT. COMMITTEE: 8-0, 6/30/26

AYES: Stern, Seyarto, Allen, Ashby, Blakespear, Dahle, Grayson, Pérez

NO VOTE RECORDED: Rubio

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: 7-0, 8/13/26

AYES: Cervantes, Seyarto, Cabaldon, Dahle, Grayson, Richardson, Wahab

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 65-6, 5/27/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Standardized emergency management system

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill revises the reporting requirements that the California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) must complete following a declared emergency.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Designates Cal OES under the California Emergency Services Act as the lead state agency responsible for state emergency response to natural, technological, or man-made disasters, as specified.
- 2) Authorizes the Governor to declare a state of emergency (SOE) when specified conditions of disaster or extreme peril to the safety of persons and property exist, and allows the Governor to exercise certain powers in response to that emergency.

- 3) Establishes the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) for managing multi-agency and multi-jurisdictional responses to emergencies in California and requires state agencies to use SEMS and local government to use SEMS to be eligible for any reimbursement of response-related costs, as specified.
- 4) Requires Cal OES to, within 180 days after each declared disaster, complete an after-action report (AAR) in cooperation with involved state and local agencies, that includes a review of the public safety response and disaster recovery activities and conclusions and recommendations based on findings.
- 5) Provides that Cal OES shall make the report available to all interested public safety and emergency management organizations.

This bill:

- 1) Directs Cal OES to complete an AAR, in cooperation with involved local and state agencies, that reviews the public safety response of a declared emergency, as specified, within the first 180 days of the declaration of the SOE, instead of within 180 days after each declared disaster.
- 2) Requires Cal OES to complete a second AAR, in cooperation with involved local and state agencies, that reviews disaster recovery activities, as specified, no later than 180 days after a declaration of a SOE ends, instead of as part of the single AAR in 1) above.
- 3) Requires Cal OES to annually draft written updates related to the recovery activities until the second recovery-focused AAR is completed, as specified, and to publish a public version of the AARs required by this bill, as specified.
- 4) Provides that Cal OES shall send both the AARs and any related recovery updates to the Legislature, as specified.

Background

AARs. The completion of AARs are a required part of SEMS, the state framework used to standardize emergency response involving multiple jurisdictions or agencies. Following a declared disaster, Cal OES gathers information and data from the various stakeholders involved. The information is then used to complete a state-level AAR that documents response activities, lessons learned, best practices, areas needing improvement, and an analysis of the effectiveness of SEMS in the incident. Information received from state and local agencies is used to determine

additional resource needs or training opportunities to address risks early and maintain disaster response at the lowest level possible. The AAR provides a vehicle for documenting system improvements and a work plan for implementing these improvements.

According to Cal OES, the number of jurisdictions, complexity, and duration of disasters influence the magnitude of data collected and the length of time it takes to complete an AAR. Cal OES lists 23 AARs currently in progress on its website.

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

According to the Senate Appropriations Committee, Cal OES estimates ongoing costs of \$2.2 million and 8.0 positions (General Fund) to handle the workload related to the expanded AAR requirements. Actual costs will depend on the number of jurisdictions involved, as well as the complexity and duration of disasters, as these factors dictate the volume of data collected and the time required to complete an AAR.

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/14/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/14/26)

Department of Finance

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: In opposition to this bill, the Department of Finance writes that, “ [the Department] is opposed to this bill because it results in significant General Fund costs not included in the 2026 Budget Act.....without additional appropriations or position authority, the bill would substantially increase Cal OES's workload by effectively doubling AAR requirements and divert staff away from core emergency management responsibilities and essential statewide coordination efforts. The bill's provisions would also require Cal OES to produce state-level reports without complete local data, create confusion across disaster stakeholders, and impose costly administrative burdens that Cal OES cannot absorb while managing multiple concurrent disasters and complex, multi-year recovery operations.”

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 65-6, 5/27/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon,

Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, Elhawary, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lee, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Valencia, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NOES: DeMaio, Gallagher, Hadwick, Macedo, Sanchez, Tangipa

NO VOTE RECORDED: Dixon, Ellis, Flora, Johnson, Lackey, Patterson, Celeste Rodriguez, Ta, Wallis

Prepared by: Cassie Royce / E.M. /
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