

SENATE RULES COMMITTEE

Office of Senate Floor Analyses

(916) 651-4171

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2543
Author: Ransom (D), et al.
Amended: 7/2/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE EMERGENCY MGT. COMMITTEE: 6-1, 6/23/26**AYES:** Allen, Ashby, Blakespear, Grayson, Pérez, Rubio**NOES:** Seyarto**NO VOTE RECORDED:** Stern, Dahle**SENATE ENERGY, U. & C. COMMITTEE:** 15-0, 6/30/26**AYES:** Allen, Ochoa Bogh, Arreguín, Ashby, Becker, Caballero, Gonzalez,

Grove, Hurtado, McNerney, Reyes, Richardson, Stern, Strickland, Wahab

NO VOTE RECORDED: Archuleta, Dahle**SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE:** 5-1, 8/13/26**AYES:** Cervantes, Cabaldon, Grayson, Richardson, Wahab**NOES:** Seyarto**NO VOTE RECORDED:** Dahle**ASSEMBLY FLOOR:** 72-1, 5/26/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Emergency preparedness: fuel and transportation resources:
assessment

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill directs the California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) to consult with the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission (CEC) and the Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety (OEIS) to submit an assessment to the Legislature, by July 1, 2028, that evaluates the impact of emergencies on fuel and transportation access, identifies critical resources, and

recommends state actions to ensure public safety and evacuation capabilities, as specified.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Designates, under the California Emergency Services Act (ESA), Cal OES as the lead state agency responsible for state emergency response to natural, technological, or man-made disasters, including activities necessary to prevent, respond to, recover from, and mitigate the effects of emergencies and disasters to people and property.
- 2) Requires all state agencies to use the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) for emergency and disaster response involving multiple jurisdictions or agencies and directs local agencies to use it to be eligible for state funding of personnel costs related to emergencies and disasters.
- 3) Establishes the CEC as the state's primary energy policy and planning agency.
- 4) Establishes the Clean Transportation Program, administered by the CEC, to fund the development of zero-emission vehicle technologies and fuels.

This bill:

- 1) Requires, on or before July 1, 2028, Cal OES, in consultation with the CEC and the OEIS, to submit an assessment to the Legislature that does all of the following:
 - a) Identifies and evaluates the types of emergencies, including, but not limited to, a seismic event, a deenergization event, an extreme weather condition, and a wildfire, during which Californians' access to fuel and transportation resources may be limited in a manner that would impact public health and safety during the emergency.
 - b) Identifies fuel and transportation resources that are important to maintain, and maintain access to, during each emergency type identified in a) above based on considerations that shall include, but not be limited to, all of the following factors:
 - i) Population that is reliant on the fuel and transportation resources.
 - ii) Geographical location of the fuel and transportation resources.

- iii) Types of fuel and transportation resources used by populations impacted by emergencies, as specified.
 - iv) Evacuation fuel and transportation resources needed for different types of emergencies.
 - v) Safety of accessing the fuel and transportation resources during the emergency.
 - vi) Whether the population using the fuel and transportation resources can be adequately served by alternative fuel and transportation resources during an emergency.
- c) Provides recommendations for actions the state should take in the event of an emergency to ensure that fuel and transportation resources necessary for public health and safety are available during the emergency, as specified.
- 2) Directs Cal OES to provide opportunities for public comment and feedback when conducting the activities required pursuant to this bill.

Background

State emergency preparedness and response. State and local agencies in California must integrate with the SEMS during disasters to ensure consistent response, particularly in emergencies involving multiple jurisdictions or multiple agencies and in coordination with other local and state partners, including Cal OES. SEMS is designed to be flexible and adaptable to the needs of all emergency responders in California. The basic components of SEMS are the Incident Command System, multi-agency or inter-agency coordination, the operational area concept, and the mutual aid system.

The State Emergency Plan (SEP), prepared by Cal OES, addresses California's response and recovery to emergency situations associated with natural or human-caused disasters. The SEP is required by the ESA and describes methods for oversight of emergency operations, mutual aid provision, government agencies emergency capabilities, mobilization of resources, consistent and accessible public messaging, and continuity of government during disasters. The 2024 SEP incorporates the Whole Community Planning Approach to involve community members, businesses, organizations, and all levels of government to increase capacity for emergency preparedness, response, and recovery. The SEP is updated every five years.

According to the author, "this bill seeks to provide a comprehensive assessment of

transportation and fuel-related challenges during emergencies to help inform future emergency planning efforts, strengthen statewide preparedness, and support the development of practical recommendations that enhance public safety and community resilience before the next disaster occurs.”

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

According to the Senate Appropriations Committee:

- Cal OES estimates costs of \$1,883,000 in the first year and \$1,108,000 ongoing to complete the assessment (General Fund). This estimate includes costs for 4.0 positions and \$775,000 in one-time consulting costs.
- CEC estimates total one-time costs of \$267,000 (Alternative and Renewable Fuel and Vehicle Technology Program Fund or Energy Resources Programs Account), which includes:
 - \$72,000 for a limited-term Electric Generation System Program Specialist I in the Fuels and Transportation Division to assist with the study of direct current fast charging stations.
 - \$95,000 for a limited-term Research Data Specialist II in the Energy Assessments Division to assist with the study of liquid fuel service stations.
 - \$100,000 in one-time contracting costs to build a statewide service station dataset.

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/13/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/13/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 72-1, 5/26/26

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, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lee, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-

Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NOES: DeMaio

NO VOTE RECORDED: Dixon, Flora, Johnson, Lackey, Macedo, Muratsuchi, Celeste Rodriguez

Prepared by: Cassie Royce / E.M. /
8/14/26 14:08:40

**** **END** ****