
CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2685
Author: Committee on Agriculture
Amended: 6/2/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE: 5-0, 6/30/26
AYES: Caballero, Alvarado-Gil, Ashby, McNerney, Padilla

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 68-0, 4/16/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Food and agriculture: omnibus bill

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill 1) requires the secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) to make public the report on the marketing of processing strawberries on the Department's internet website, rather than file the report with the Legislature; 2) authorizes the California Walnut Commission to recommend to the secretary the adoption of walnut quality standards and product labeling requirements and allows the secretary, at the beginning of the marketing season next succeeding the date of adoption, to implement these quality standards and product labeling requirements recommended by the commission, in accordance with the California Marketing Act of 1937, unless otherwise provided; 3) authorizes the commission to engage in any activity related to walnuts that is authorized pursuant to the California Marketing Act of 1937 and requires the commission, if it engages in such an activity, to act in accordance with the procedures specified in that act, unless otherwise provided; 4) prohibits the commission from engaging in such an activity until the beginning of the marketing season next succeeding the date on which the commission publicly announces its intent to engage in the activity; and 5) requires the commission to serve as the advisory body to the secretary on these matters.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Requires CDFA, on or before the last day of each year in which a marketing order exclusively affecting processing strawberries is in effect, to prepare and file with the Legislature a written report of the operations of this chapter and shall make recommendations regarding its various provisions. Each report and recommendation shall be based on determinations made by the secretary as a result of the annual review specified in Section 63125. (Food and Agricultural Code section 63126).
- 2) Establishes the California Walnut Commission for the promotion of the sale of walnuts by brand and generic advertising and other promotional means and educate and instruct the wholesale and retail trade in domestic and foreign markets with respect to proper methods of handling *walnuts* (Food and Agricultural Code Section 77001).
- 3) Establishes the California Marketing Act of 1937 which governs the marketing of commodities in California (Food and Agricultural Code Section 58601).

This bill:

- 1) Requires the Secretary of CDFA to make the report to the Legislature on the marketing of processing strawberries publicly available on CDFAs website rather than file the report with the Legislature.
- 2) Authorizes the Walnut Commission to recommend to the Secretary the adoption of walnut quality standards and product labeling requirements.
 - a) Requires the standards and product labeling requirements be in accordance with the procedures specified in the California Marketing Act of 1937.
- 3) Prohibits the Secretary from implementing any adopted quality standards or labeling requirements until the beginning of the marketing season next succeeding the date of adoption.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the author, “This bill will help streamline the annual strawberry report, make the report available to a wider range of constituents.”

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 68-0, 4/16/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Boerner, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Elhawary, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, 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, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Berman, Bonta, Dixon, Flora, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Papan, Celeste Rodriguez, Schiavo

Prepared by: Reichel Everhart / AGRI. / (916) 651-1508
8/5/26 15:12:54

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