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## SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Sabrina Cervantes, Chair  
2025 - 2026 Regular Session

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**SB 1001 (Archuleta) - Local agency, corporation, or mutual water company:  
personnel access: Personal Identity Verification-Interoperable**

**Version:** April 21, 2026

**Urgency:** No

**Hearing Date:** April 27, 2026

**Policy Vote:** E.M. 8 - 0, PUB. S. 6 - 0

**Mandate:** No

**Consultant:** Janelle Miyashiro

**Bill Summary:** SB 1001, beginning July 1, 2028, requires the Office of Emergency Services (OES) to issue disaster-area access credentials at the request of local agencies, public utilities, or mutual water companies managing critical infrastructure and public works, as specified.

**Fiscal Impact:** OES estimates General Fund costs of \$5.7 million in the first year and \$5.2 million annually thereafter for program development and implementation. OES's fiscal estimate includes:

- 16 full-time positions across various directorates to manage increased workload for developing, issuing, and tracking identification cards for local agencies and utility workers, and delivering training courses through the California Specialized Training Institute.
- \$100,000 annually for learning-management system (LMS) licenses.
- \$1 million in one-time IT costs to build an online application and tracking system, and \$500,000 in annual maintenance costs.

OES notes that if the program requires public-facing facilities for identification card distribution, staffing costs may reach up to \$1 million per location. Actual costs will remain contingent on the final program design.

**Background:** Under current law, law enforcement officers and other designated officials may cordon off and close a disaster area to the public where the disaster has created "a menace to the public health or safety." A person is guilty of a misdemeanor if they willfully and knowingly enter a closed area and willfully remain within the area after receiving notice to evacuate. However, the official authorizing the closure may not prevent specified media representatives and livestock pass document-holders (e.g. ranchers) from entering the closed area unless entry is determined to be unsafe or their presence would interfere with emergency response.

This bill expands this exception to include any person requested by a local agency, public utility, or mutual water company who has been issued a Personal Identity Verification-Interoperable (PIV-I) card by OES. The bill, among other things, requires the PIV-I card issued by OES to conform with federal National Incident Management System (NIMS) guidelines.

According to the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), federal PIV standards are based on secure and reliable forms of identity credentials issued by the federal government to its employees and contractors. These credentials are used to

authenticate individuals who require access to federally controlled facilities, information systems, and applications. The standards address requirements for initial identity proofing, infrastructure to support interoperability of identity credentials, and accreditation of organizations and processes issuing PIV credentials. These standards ensure secure, interoperable physical and logistical access to government facilities and information systems via authenticated, smart-card-based credentials.

**Proposed Law:**

- Beginning July 1, 2028, requires OES, upon request, to issue a local agency, public utility, or mutual water company responsible for public works and critical infrastructure with credentialing to facilitate personnel access to an area during or following a natural disaster, act of terrorism, or other man-made disaster.
- By July 1, 2028, requires OES to make an application available for a local agency, public utility, or mutual water company to request that an individual be issued a Personal Identity Verification-Interoperable (PIV-I) credential that conforms with specified federal guidelines.
  - Requires the application to indicate that the individual has completed appropriate education, training, experience, and certification or licensure for performing an emergency support function discipline or activity.
- Requires OES to provide a PIV-I card upon receipt of an application signed by a duly authorized representative of a local agency, public utility, or mutual water company that includes a statement justifying the need for the individual to receive that ID for purposes of access to those areas.
- Authorizes an incident commander, law enforcement official having jurisdiction, or their designee to grant a PIV-I cardholder access to a disaster area.
- Provides that a PIV-I card be valid for five years from the date of issuance and be renewable upon submission of an application for renewal.
- Provides that local agencies, public utilities, or mutual water companies are responsible for collecting and destroying a PIV-I card if the cardholder ceases employment with the employer or the job duties of the individual change, making access by the cardholder no longer appropriate.
- Requires OES to impose and collect a fee for the reasonable costs of issuing the card and administering the program.
- Provides that an individual who holds a valid PIV-I card or an individual who holds a valid ID card issued by a local agency, public utility, or mutual water company shall only be denied access to a closed area if the authorizing officer determines that entry is unsafe or the presence of the cardholder would interfere with disaster response.
- Provides that “public utility” has the same meaning as the term defined in Section 216 of the Public Utilities Code.
- State legislative findings and declarations.