

Date of Hearing: June 24, 2026

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
Buffy Wicks, Chair
SB 1204 (Ochoa Bogh) – As Introduced February 19, 2026

Policy Committee: Judiciary

Vote: 12 - 0

Urgency: No

State Mandated Local Program: No

Reimbursable: No

SUMMARY:

This bill requires the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) to notify the Legislature when it disapproves a regulation. Specifically, this bill requires OAL, within 60 days of returning a disapproved regulation to the adopting agency, to report the disapproval and the reasons for the disapproval to the Legislature.

FISCAL EFFECT:

Likely minor and absorbable costs (General Fund) to OAL to compile and transmit disapproval reports to the Legislature. The bill requires OAL to report the same information — the fact of the disapproval and the reasons for it — that existing law already requires OAL to prepare and deliver to the adopting agency, so the new requirement adds a transmittal step to an analysis OAL already performs rather than generating new substantive work. OAL was unable to provide a cost estimate at the time this analysis was drafted.

COMMENTS:

Under the Administrative Procedure Act, OAL reviews final regulations submitted by state agencies and must disapprove a regulation that fails to meet specified standards or comply with required procedures, notifying the adopting agency of the reasons. Existing law does not require OAL to notify the Legislature of a disapproval, even where the regulation was developed pursuant to a statutory mandate. The author notes this can leave bill authors unaware that a regulation implementing their legislation was rejected — sometimes for a technical or procedural defect — and uncertain why a statutory deadline for promulgating the regulation was missed. This bill adds the legislative-notification requirement; because the requirement largely tracks the reasons OAL must already provide to the adopting agency, it does not appear to impose a significant new workload.

Analysis Prepared by: Shiran Zohar / APPR. / (916) 319-2081