

SENATE THIRD READING
SCR 84 (Blakespear)
As Amended March 12, 2026
Majority vote

SUMMARY

Recognizes May 2026 as California Rail Month in recognition of the invaluable contributions that rail has made to the state.

Major Provisions

- 1) California is home to millions of residents and has a world-leading economy, highlighting the need for a seamless network of connected transportation systems that are resilient, accessible, and high quality.
- 2) Rail transportation is a central component of the state's mobility needs and facilitates a travel option that reduces emissions, avoids traffic, and improves the quality of life in the regions it serves.
- 3) Since California became the 31st state in 1850, rail has been historically important in connecting communities to the rest of the nation and growing economic opportunity, making rail services a vital public infrastructure that is intrinsically linked to many of the state's most important goals and celebrated successes.
- 4) The LOSSAN Rail Corridor Agency, the San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority, and the Capitol Corridor Joint Powers Authority are responsible for operating state-supported intercity rail services: the Pacific Surfliner, the Capitol Corridor, and San Joaquins.
- 5) There are five local agencies responsible for operating regional rail services: the Southern California Regional Rail Authority operating Metrolink, the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board operating Caltrain, the San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission operating the Altamont Corridor Express, the North County Transit District operating COASTER, and the Sonoma-Marín Area Rail Transit District operating Sonoma-Marín Area Rail Transit.
- 6) The California State Rail Plan establishes a long-term vision for passenger and freight rail services across the state, recognizing the urgency of developing a rail network by 2050 that is zero emission, provides reliable and frequent service, and is interconnected as part of a multimodal transportation ecosystem.
- 7) The California State Rail Plan has set a goal of providing nearly 200 million daily passenger-miles on a statewide rail network by 2050.
- 8) The state plans to have approximately 1,500 miles of rail electrified by 2050 and 440 miles of rail constructed over the next 10 years.

COMMENTS

According to the Author

Rail services are a vital part of the state's transportation ecosystem. SCR 84 recognizes the importance of rail across the state in serving millions of passengers and facilitating billions in goods movement every year. It remains absolutely vital today and essential to our future, as we work toward meeting climate goals and ensuring people have options at getting around.

Arguments in Support

None on file

Arguments in Opposition

None on file

FISCAL COMMENTS

No fiscal impact. This resolution is keyed non-fiscal by Legislative Counsel.

VOTES**SENATE FLOOR: 32-0-8**

YES: Allen, Archuleta, Arreguín, Ashby, Becker, Blakespear, Cabaldon, Caballero, Cervantes, Choi, Cortese, Durazo, Grayson, Hurtado, Laird, Limón, McGuire, McNerney, Menjivar, Ochoa Bogh, Padilla, Pérez, Reyes, Richardson, Rubio, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern, Umberg, Valladares, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

ABS, ABST OR NV: Alvarado-Gil, Dahle, Gonzalez, Grove, Jones, Niello, Seyarto, Strickland

ASM RULES: 6-0-4

YES: Pacheco, Garcia, Mark González, Irwin, Michelle Rodriguez, Zbur

ABS, ABST OR NV: Lackey, Ahrens, Ta, Sanchez

UPDATED

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