

2014

2013-2014 Legislative Summary

Assembly Committee on Agriculture

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2013 - 2014 Legislative Summary

SUSAN T. EGGMAN, CHAIR



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Assembly Committee on Agriculture

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November 15, 2014

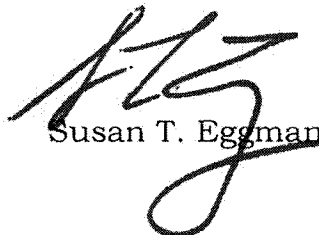
TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES:

The following report summarizes legislation referred to the Assembly Committee on Agriculture during the 2013-14 legislative session and indicates the final status of each measure.

The Committee's primary jurisdiction extends to agricultural land use, commodity specific legislation, agricultural commissions and councils, the California Department of Food and Agriculture, fairs and expositions, agricultural marketing, and food safety and labeling.

For additional information regarding this summary, or other activities of the Assembly Committee on Agriculture, please contact the Committee staff at 916-319-2084.

Sincerely,


Susan T. Eggman, Chair



Assembly Committee on Agriculture
Susan T. Eggman, Chair

2013-14 Legislative Summary

ASSEMBLY BILLS

AB 31 (Pan) – Milk products: milk prices: dairy industry sustainability.

This bill states uncoded findings and declarations as it pertains to the pricing of milk in the state.

Filed with the Chief Clerk pursuant to Joint Rule 56.

AB 38 (John A. Perez) – The Office of Farm to Fork.

Creates the Office of Farm to Fork within the California Department of Food and Agriculture to work with various groups and organizations involved in promoting food access, to increase the amount of agricultural products available to schools and underserved communities in the state.

Filed with the Chief Clerk pursuant to Joint Rule 56.

AB 199 (Holden) – Institutional purchasers: sale of California produce.

Requires specified government agencies, and encourages public education entities to purchase agriculture products produced in California if certain criteria are met.

This bill was double referred to Assembly Committee on Accountability and Administrative Review and Assembly Committee on Agriculture.

Vetoed by the Governor.

GOVERNOR'S VETO MESSAGE:

To Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 199 without my signature.

This bill would require the state to implement a preference for agricultural products grown in California and offered by a California company. This preference would be difficult to comply with and quite onerous. Every purchase, even a single bag of apples, would be affected.

I strongly support California's agricultural industry and encourage all state-run institutions to support local farmers and businesses. In fact, state growers and processors have no trouble competing for – and winning – the state's business. Today, approximately half of all food the Department of General Services purchases for state institutions comes from California, without a preference or a mandate.

*Sincerely,
Edmund G. Brown, Jr.*

AB 224 (Gordon) – Agricultural products: direct marketing: community-supported agriculture.

Creates definitions dealing with requirements for Consumer Supported Agriculture and authorizes the California Department of Food and Agriculture to establish fees, not to exceed \$100, to administer this new program, as specified.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 404, Statutes of 2013.

AB 272 (Gomez) – Rabies: vaccinations.

Changes, from four months to three months, the age at which a dog is required to be vaccinated against rabies. This bill also makes technical changes.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 582, Statutes of 2013.

AB 343 (Patterson) – Animal cruelty: duty to provide documentary evidence.

Requires any person, except journalists as specified, who knowingly documents evidence of farm animal cruelty with film, photographs, images, print, recordings or videotapes, to provide a copy to local law enforcement or an animal control officer within 120 hours.

This bill was double referred to Assembly Committee on Agriculture and Assembly Committee on Public Safety.

From Committee: Filed with the Chief Clerk pursuant to Joint Rule 56.

AB 551 (Ting) – Local government: urban agriculture incentive zones.

Allows a county or a city and county to establish by ordinance, an Urban Agriculture Incentive Zone for the purpose of supporting urban agriculture.

This bill was double referred to Assembly Committee on Agriculture and Assembly Committee on Local Government.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 406, Statutes of 2013.

AB 571 (Gatto) – Agricultural pest control: citrus disease prevention.

Makes legislative findings and declarations that there is an ongoing need for at least \$5 million annually to combat citrus pest and disease, and appropriates \$5 million from the general fund to the Citrus Disease Management Account in the California Department of Food and Agriculture .

Vetoed by the Governor.

Governor's Veto Message:

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 571 without my signature.

This bill would appropriate \$5 million annually from the General Fund to the Department of Food and Agriculture to support research and programs to combat citrus disease and vectors in California.

While I am acutely aware of the devastating effects of the Asian citrus psyllid and its vector Huanglongbing, this program has mostly been funded

by the citrus industry and the federal government. If the current support is inadequate, let's review our options during the budget process.

*Sincerely,
Edmund G. Brown Jr.*

AB 654 (Hall) – Direct marketing: certified farmers' markets.

Extends the sunset date to January 1, 2018, for the collection of certified farmers' market operator fees and enforcement provisions of direct marketing.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 409, Statutes of 2013.

AB 823 (Eggman) – Environment: California Farmland Protection Act.

This bill would adopt a minimum statewide standard for the purpose of mitigating the loss of farmland when a project results in the conversion of farmland to non-agricultural uses, including residential, commercial, civic, industrial, and infrastructure projects.

This bill was double referred to Assembly Committee on Natural Resources and Assembly Committee on Agriculture.

Filed with the Chief Clerk pursuant to Joint Rule 56.

AB 996 (Dickinson) – Agricultural products: direct marketing: certified farmers' markets.

Recasts and expands Certified Farmers' Market laws, requirements, and fees; and, increases penalties for violations.

Filed with the Chief Clerk pursuant to Joint Rule 56.

AB 1037 (V. Manuel Perez) – Employee Housing Act: agricultural land use.

This bill was double referred to Assembly Committee on Housing and Community Development and Assembly Committee on Agriculture.

Filed with the Chief Clerk pursuant to Joint Rule 56.

AB 1069 (Dickinson) – California Exposition and State Fair.

Changes the governance of the California Esposition and State Fair, and makes legislative findings and declarations. This bill contains an urgency clause.

Filed with the Chief Clerk pursuant to Joint Rule 56.

AB 1132 (Eggman) – Agriculture: livestock drugs and commercial feed.

Increases both the restricted livestock drug license application fee and late payment fee to \$50; authorizes the Secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture to establish a hazard analysis and preventive control measures for all commercial feed; and, extends the sunset date for commercial feed license fees, inspection tonnage tax, and provisions regarding the inspection tonnage tax to January 1, 2020.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 622, Statutes of 2013.

AB 1137 (Mansoor) – Industrial Hemp.

This bill was double referred to Assembly Committee on Public Safety and Assembly Committee on Agriculture.

Filed with the Chief Clerk pursuant to Joint Rule 56.

AB 1175 (Bocanegra) – Food and Agriculture: cooperative agreements: agricultural inspector associates.

The bill prohibits the California Department of Food and Agriculture from entering into cooperative agreements with Los Angeles County (County) for agricultural inspection services unless a currently unspecified percentage of agricultural inspector associates are granted permanent County civil service status.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 588, Statutes of 2014.

AB 1319 (Eggman) – Agriculture.

Revises and recasts indemnity payments for brucellosis reactive and non-reactive cattle, eliminating the state's payment for slaughtered animals. The Senate amendments add the Secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture to the membership of the Strategic Growth Council. Adds statutory

changes to reflect changes made by the Governor's Reorganization Plan No. 2, relating to the Transportation Agency.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 623, Statutes of 2013.

AB 1388 (Committee on Agriculture) – Horses: test verification, horse shows, competitions, and sales.

Changes from six months to 12 months the required verification time that a horse or other Equidae (horses) brought into the state has been tested and found negative for equine infectious anemia. Makes changes to the Equine Medication Monitoring Program, as specified.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 116, Statutes of 2013.

AB 1389 (Committee on Agriculture) – Agriculture.

Expands the membership of the Shell Egg Advisory Committee (SEAC) by three, as specified; makes inoperative, as specified, the statutes and regulations governing the San Joaquin Valley Quality Cotton District, as of January 1, 2014, until specified; removes the use of geographical districts for the California Asparagus Commission; deletes term limits for members; and, deletes provisions allowing the commission to function as a corporation.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 383, Statutes of 2013.

AB 1390 (Committee on Agriculture) – Milk products: pasteurization: goat milk.

Adds curds made from goat milk, for the purpose of making goat cheese, to the list of items inspected from on-site pasteurization, as long as the curds have been pasteurized, as specified, at a food facility registered with the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Specifically, this bill exempts curds made from goat milk for the purpose of making cheese, with the exception of cottage cheese, from the requirement of on-site pasteurization as long as curds are produced at one of the following: a licensed milk products plant, or a milk products plant that meets sanitation standards similar to California standards and that is registered with FDA as a food facility.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 107, Statutes of 2013.

AB 1414 (Committee on Agriculture) – Pasteurized in-shell eggs: labeling.

This bill creates a new definition for "pasteurized in-shell eggs" and includes these eggs in the definition of an "egg handler;" exempts pasteurized in-shell eggs from current labeling requirements for shell eggs, and instead creates new labeling requirements and sell-by date criteria for pasteurized in-shell eggs.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 11, Statutes of 2014.

AB 1430 (Committee on Agriculture) – Pasteurized In-shell Eggs.

Referred to Agriculture Committee.

Filed with the Chief Clerk pursuant to Joint Rule 56.

AB 1437 (Mullin) – Medically Important Antimicrobials: livestock and poultry.

This bill would ban the sale, in California, of a livestock or poultry product if the livestock or poultry was given a medically important antimicrobial for nontherapeutic use.

Set, first hearing. Hearing canceled at the request of author.

AB 1566 (Holden) – Inedible kitchen grease.

AB 1566 would increase the authority of the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) and the California Highway Patrol to oversee and enforce laws related to the collection, transportation, storage, and rendering of inedible kitchen grease. Among other things, the bill would extend the sunset for the collection of annual fees charged by CDFA by five years, from July 1, 2015 to July, 2020.

This bill was double-referred to the Assembly Committee on Transportation and the Assembly Committee on Agriculture.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 595, Statutes of 2014.

AB 1597 (Committee on Agriculture) – Food and Agriculture.

This measure was the Assembly Agriculture Committee's omnibus bill. AB 1597 extends the repeal date for provisions of the fruit, nut, and vegetable standardization program to January 1, 2020, and conforms state law to a new

federal regulation in regard to required medical documents for horses and other equines when crossing state borders.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 281, Statutes of 2014.

AB 1642 (Chesbro) – Pest Control: Pierce's Disease.

This bill extends sunset dates until January 2, 2021, for provisions related to Pierce's Disease and the glassy- winged sharpshooter.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 231, Statutes of 2014.

AB 1647 (Wilk) – Bonds: school districts and community college districts.

AB 1647 was introduced as an agriculture bill relating to requirements for fairs. On August 22, 2014, the language was gutted and amended and replaced with language pertaining to bonds: school districts and community college districts, and was no longer Agriculture Committee's jurisdiction.

Referred to Senate Committee on Rules pursuant to Senate Rule 29.10(c).

AB 1722 (Bigelow) – Cattle Protection.

This bill would prohibit any person who is convicted of grand theft for stealing a horse, catle, or specified other animals, from registering and owning a brand for a period of five years following the date of conviction, as specified.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 129, Statutes of 2014.

AB 1871 (Dickinson) – Agricultural products: direct marketing: certified famers' markets.

This bill recasts and expands the requirements, exemptions, and fee for Ceertified Farmers' Markets, their operators and vendors, and adjacent non-agricultural markets, and increases penalties for violations. AB 1871 deletes the January 2, 2018, sunset provisions for this chapter, making the provisions permanent.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 579, Statutes of 2014.

AB 1961 (Eggman) – Land Use: planning: sustainable farmland strategy.

This bill would have required counties to develop a sustainable farmland strategy to preserve agricultural land.

Set, second hearing. Held under submission in the Assembly Committee on Appropriations.

AB 1990 (Gordon) – Food production.

This bill permits a "community food producer," defined as a producer of agricultural products on land that is not zoned for agricultural use, to sell whole uncut fruits or vegetable, or unrefrigerated shell eggs, directly to the public, including restaurants, if the community food producer follows certain requirements.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 580, Statutes of 2014.

AB 2014 (Alejo) – Undocumented workers: Taxation: undocumented immigrants.

As originally introduced, AB 2014 related to undocumented workers and work permits. This language was gutted and amended on March 28, 2014, and instead became a bill regarding undocumented workers, and the California Agricultural and Service Worker Act. In its original form, AB 2014 was double-referred to the Assembly Labor and Employment Committee and the Assembly Agriculture Committee. After the March 28, 2014 amendments, the bill was referred to the Assembly Revenue and Taxation Committee.

In Assembly Appropriations Committee. Held under submission.

AB 2185 (Eggman) – Bees: apiculture: state-owned lands.

AB 2185 directs the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) to encourage beekeeping on wildlife lands DFW manages when developing or amending wildlife lands use plans; requires DFW to maximize the coexistence and minimize the conflict between beekeeping and other public land uses, and ensures the state receive appropriate compensation for the use of state-owned lands.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 338, Statutes of 2014.

AB 2241 (Eggman) – Local Government: agricultural land.

This bill, until January 1, 2020, changes the rescission fee charged by a city or county when land under the Williamson Act contract, or land designated as a farmland security zone, enters into a solar-use easement, to 10% of the fair market value of the property. This bill requires 50% of the rescir county to keep 50% of the rescission fees.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 582, Statutes of 2014.

AB 2385 (Ting) – Market Match Nutrition Incentive Program.

This bill creates the Market Match Nutrition Incentive Program (MMNIP) for encouraging the purchase and consumption of fresh California fruits, nuts, and vegetables by directly linking producers with certain benefit recipients; creates the MMNIP account within the California Department of Food and Agriculture to collect funds from the federal Food Insecurity Nutrition Incentives Grant Program (a part of the federal Agricultural Act of 2014) and provides grants under MMNIP. **Set, second hearing. Held under submission in Assembly Committee on Appropriations.**

AB 2402 (Buchanan) – Noxious weed management.

AB 2402 makes technical changes updating the legislative findings of the Noxious Weed Management (NWM) statutes; makes changes to the distribution of NWM account funds, increasing the percentage allocated to research, risk assessment, and control strategies; and, expands how some program funds may be used.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 271, Statutes of 2014

AB 2413 (Perez, John A.) – The Office of Farm to Fork.

This bill creates the Office of Farm to Fork within the California Department of Food and Agriculture, both to work with various entities involved in promoting food access, and to increase the amount of agricultural products available to schools and underserved communities in the State of California.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 583, Statutes of 2014.

AB 2470 (Salas) – California Seed Law.

This bill defines "neighbor" and adds "corporation" to the definition of "person" within the California Seed Law. Prohibits the adoption or enforcement of a local ordinance that regulates plants, crops, or seeds, without the consent of the Secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 294, Statutes of 2014.

AB 2490 (Eggman) District Agricultural Associations.

AB 2490 revises several provisions relating to the state oversight of district agricultural associations (DAAs). This bill authorizes these fairs to take specified actions without the prior approval of state agencies, authorizes the Governor to remove fair board members with cause, and reduces the frequency of audits for smaller fairs, among other provisions and technical changes. This bill specifies that a DAA is not required to submit any written report to the Governor, the Legislature, or a state agency, unless specifically required.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 342, Statutes of 2014.

AB 2505 (Yamada) – Milk: home dairy farms: sharing, exchange, or direct sale of raw milk.

This bill defines a home dairy farm (HDF) as having three or less lactating cows or 15 or less lactating goats and sheep, as specified. Allows a HDF to directly sell or share excess raw milk, as specified. Requires a HDF to follow health and safety rules if the HDF sells or shares excess raw milk.

Set, first hearing. Held without recommendation.

AB 2538 (Quirk) – Dairy Products: cream: bacteria and coliform bacteria limits.

This bill would increase the allowable limits from 20,000 to 25,000 bacteria per gram, and from 10 to 15 coliform bacteria per gram for specified dairy cream products.

Referred to Committee on Agriculture.

AB 2602 (Eggman) – Farm to School Program.

Establishes the Farm to School Program with the California Department of Food and Agriculture to provide grants and technical assistance to school districts and county offices of education, to develop and maintain Farm to School programs.

Set, second hearing. Held under submission in the Assembly Committee on Appropriation.

AB 2730 (Eggman) – Alternative milk marketing agreements.

This bill, when heard in Committee, required the California Department of Food and Agriculture, by July 1, 2015, to develop and maintain a list of animal diseases that are likely to enter California and, to the extent funding is available, develop a written plan for the detection, exclusion, eradication, control, or management, of higher priority animal diseases on this list. This bill started as a Committee on Agriculture measure, and was gutted and amended to adjust milk pool pricing, and to permit milk contracts outside of the milk pool for classes 4a and 4b milk usage .

Re-referred to Senate Committee on Rules pursuant to Senate Rule 29.10(c).

RESOLUTIONS

HR 9 (Daly) – Historic Vineyards.

Honors the value and importance of historical vineyards in California.

Read and Adopted.

ACR 29 (Eggman) – California Agriculture Day.

This measure recognizes the week of March 17, 2013, to March 23, 2013, inclusive, as National Agriculture Week, and designates March 20, 2013, as California Agriculture Day. California Agriculture Day is a day of celebration to commemorate agriculture's importance in the people of California's daily lives, its vital role in keeping Californians nourished, and its role in keeping the state's economy ranked as the ninth largest in the world.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Res. Chapter 34, Statutes of 2013.

ACR 136 (Eggman/Alejo) – National Strawberry Month.

This resolution celebrates May 2014 as National Strawberry Month and recognizes the contributions of California strawberry farmers and the California Strawberry Commission in supporting a quintessential California crop that sustains families, communities, the environment, the California economy, and the opportunity for immigrants to pursue the American dream.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Resolution Chapter 49, Statutes of 2014.

SENATE BILLS

SB 250 (Wolk) – Olive Oil Commission of California.

This bill establishes the Olive Oil Commission of California (OOC) to engage in olive oil quality and nutritional research and to recommend grades and labeling standards. This bill authorizes OOC to levy an annual assessment, as specified, on producers, as defined. This bill becomes operative upon a favorable producer referendum vote.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 344, Statutes of 2013.

SB 348 (Galgiani) – Agricultural seed: county seed enforcement subventions.

Extends the provisions and repeal dates of the California Seed Law and county subventions, until July 1, 2016 and January 1, 2017, respectfully.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 385, Statutes of 2013.

SB 411 (Wolk) – Building Standards:water meters:multi-unit structures.

As introduced, SB 411 would have required any olive oil produced, processed, sold or possessed in California, that indicates on its label that California is the source of the oil, or that it is from an area that is one of the approved American Viticultural Areas (AVAs), to be made of oil derived solely from olives grown in that approved AVA, rather than the existing law requirement that at least 75% of the oil be

derived from olives grown in the AVA. The bill was gutted and amended and replaced with language pertaining to building standards:water meters:multi-unit structures.

Set, first hearing. Hearing canceled at the request of author. Re-referred to Committee on Rules pursuant to Assembly Rule 97.

SB 465 (Correa) – Packaging and labeling: containers: slack fill.

Revises the definition for "nonfunctional slack fill" prohibited in packaged goods to require that nonfunctional slack fill be substantially less than the allowed capacity, and clarifies a particular exemption to require the actual size of the product be clearly and conspicuously depicted on any side of the exterior packaging, except the bottom.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 429, Statutes of 2013.

SB 504 (Tom Berryhill) – Fruit, nut, and vegetable standards: civil penalties.

Authorizes a county agricultural commissioner, after exhaustion of the appeal and review process, to obtain judgments from a superior court, to expedite recovery of civil penalties levied on violators of the Fruit, Nut, and Vegetable Standards Law.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 254, Statutes of 2013.

SB 566 (Leno) – Industrial hemp.

Allows the regulated cultivation and processing of industrial hemp and its seed, upon federal approval, as specified.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 398, Statutes of 2013.

SB 599 (Evans) – State Parks.

This bill originally was about direct marketing: certified farmers' markets; this language was deleted and instead deals with state parks.

Set, second hearing. Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee and under submission.

SB 667 (Roth) – Retail sale of shelled eggs.

This bill adds a "knowing or should have known" clause to the liability standard for the sale of shelled eggs not in compliance with California animal welfare standards.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 625, Statutes of 2013.

SB 695 (Wright) – California Science Center: parking facilities.

Prohibits the California Science Center (CSC) from delegating the power to manage and operate CSC's parking facilities to any other party, and prohibits CSC, or the director of the Department of General Services, from approving a sale or lease of more than 10 years of CSC's parking facilities without legislative approval, as specified.

Vetoed by the Governor.

Governor's Veto Message:

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 695 without my signature.

Prohibiting potential lessees as proposed by this bill unnecessarily limits the California Science Center's revenue options and further restricts the Center from pursuing partnerships that may prove to be advantageous to itself and Expo Park as a whole.

Sincerely,

Edmund G. Brown, Jr.

SB 741 (Cannella/Galgiani) – California fairs: funding.

This bill makes several substantive and clarifying changes to current law related to the operation, oversight, and funding of the network of California fairs. This bill has an urgency clause.

Set, first hearing. Referred to Assembly Appropriations suspense file.

Hearing postponed by Committee.

SB 835 (Hill) – Food Animals: medically important antimicrobial drugs.

This bill codifies the Food and Drug Administration's Guidance for Industry #213, dated December 2013, by requiring the Secretary of the Department of Food and Agriculture to refuse to register a livestock drug administered in the feed or drinking water of food animals, if such a drug is a medically important antimicrobial drug (MIAD). Prohibits a person from administering a MIAD through feed or drinking water except pursuant to a veterinarian/client/patient relationship.

Vetoed by the Governor.

Governor's Veto Message:

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 835 without my signature.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates conservatively that at least two million illnesses and 23,000 deaths are caused by antibiotic-resistant bacteria in the United States each year. Scientists around the world are warning that we are over-using these life-saving medicines in both human medicine and to raise animals.

SB 835 would codify a voluntary Federal Drug Administration standard that phases-out antibiotic use for growth promotion. Codifying these standards is unnecessary since most major animal producers have already pledged to go beyond the FDA standard.

More needs to be done to understand and reduce our reliance on antibiotics.

To that end, I am directing the Department of Food and Agriculture to work with the Legislature to find new and effective ways to reduce the unnecessary antibiotics used for livestock and poultry.

*Sincerely,
Edmund G. Brown Jr.*

SB 1018 (De leon) – Pest Control: citrus disease prevention.

Requires the Secretary of the Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) to notify the California Citrus Pest and Disease Prevention Committee for any changes to program activities or increases in expenditures, and allows CDFA to produce commercially available beneficial biological organisms.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 924, Statutes of 2014.

SB 1040 (Evans) – Food Labeling: genetically engineered food.

This bill requires the labeling of all foods produced with genetic engineering (GE) sold within the state, and deems a food misbranded if its labeling does not conform to GE label requirements.

Set, first hearing. Hearing canceled at the request of author.

SB 1138 (Padilla) – Fish and Shellfish: labeling and identification.

This bill requires the label of fish or shellfish that is offered for sale at wholesale or retail to clearly identify the species of fish or shellfish by its common name.

Vetoed by the Governor.

Governor's Veto Message:

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 1138 without my signature.

Much of what the bill seeks to accomplish is good. Requiring seafood producers and wholesalers to identify whether fish and shellfish are wild caught or farm raised, domestic or imported - these are reasonable and helpful facts for purchasers to know.

Requiring more precise, species-specific labeling of seafood, however, is not as easily achieved.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration publishes both market names and common names under which fish and shellfish may be sold. The bill's requirement to use the FDA published common name in all fish and shellfish

labels, unless the state promulgates a different common name, would create uncertainties and complexities that may not be easily resolved.

Proponents of this measure have made enormous strides in helping consumers and policymakers understand the health, safety and sustainability impacts in our consumption of seafood.

Let's continue to work to give California consumers information that will help them make wise decisions.

*Sincerely,
Edmund G. Brown Jr.*

SB 1353 (Nielsen) – Local Government: Williamson Act.

SB 1353 repeals the January 2, 2016, sunset date in statutes that allow counties to increase the assessed value of Williamson Act land, and divert the resulting property tax revenues to counties.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 322, Statutes of 2014.

SB 1399 (Galgiani) – Agricultural seed: county seed enforcement subventions.

This bill extends the operation and repeal dates for provisions of the California Seed Law, including an annual county subvention for enforcement activities necessary to carry out these provisions, until July 1, 2019, and January 21, 2020, respectively. SB 1399 deletes the provisions establishing a method of calculating apportionments based on units of activity, and instead requires the amount of the subvention designated to each participating county to be established in a memorandum of understanding between the county agricultural commissioner and the Secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture, in consultation with the Seed Advisory Board.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 277, Statutes of 2014.

RESOLUTIONS

SCR 92 (Galgiani) – California Agriculture Day.

This measure recognizes the week of March 23, 2014, to March 29, 2014, inclusive, as National Agriculture Week, and designates March 19, 2014, as California Agriculture Day.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Resolution Chapter 14, Statutes of 2014.

SCR 95 (Steinberg) – Kirk Breed Memorial Race Track.

SCR 95 designates the State Fair Race Track, located on the grounds of the California Exposition and State Fair in the City of Sacramento, as the Kirk Breed Memorial Race Track. The measure requests the Board of Directors of the California Exposition and State Fair to determine the cost of placing an appropriate memorial plaque marking this special designation and, upon receiving donations from non-state sources covering that cost, to erect that memorial plaque.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Resolution Chapter 101, Statutes of 2014.

Committee Oversight Hearings

- 1) Assembly Agriculture Informational Hearing
April 3, 2013, State Capitol, Room 126

Subject: Presentations by State Departments that Interact with the Committee

- 2) Assembly Committee on Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials, and
Assembly Committee on Agriculture Joint Oversight Hearing
October 16, 2013, State Capitol, Room 4202

Subject: Bee Colony Collapse Disorder

- 3) Assembly Agriculture Oversight Hearing
November 6, 2013, State Capitol, Room 126

Subject: Farmland Mitigation

* The Hon. Toni Atkins was a Member of the Agriculture Committee until her election as Speaker of the Assembly, at which time Hon. Rudy Salas was appointed to, and is currently a Member of, the Agriculture Committee.