



## California Public Utilities Commission

### Legislative Update – Office of Governmental Affairs

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*Bills of Interest to the Low Income Oversight Board  
Meeting – March 8<sup>th</sup> 2018*

**1. Assembly Bill 1995 (Eduardo Garcia): Local publicly owned electric and gas utilities: weatherization.**

This bill would require the California Public Utilities Commission to direct an electrical or gas corporation to provide as many of the specified weatherization measures as are feasible and cost effective for each eligible low-income dwelling unit, and provides that weatherization may also include water conservation measures that result in energy savings determined by the utility to be feasible, in consideration of both the cost-effectiveness of the services and the public policy of reducing financial hardships facing low-income households. This bill would additionally provide for every local publicly owned electric and gas utility that weatherization may also include energy management technology and water conservation measures that result in energy savings determined by the utility to be feasible, in consideration of both the cost-effectiveness of the services and the public policy of reducing financial hardships facing low-income households.

**2. Assembly Bill 2068 (Chu): Electricity: rates: public schools.**

Requires the California Public Utilities Commission, for all retail sellers, and publicly owned electric utility to develop a rate tariff for eligible public schools that provides a 35 percent discount from the rate of a similarly situated class of ratepayers.

**3. Assembly Bill 2077 (Limón): Electricity: net energy metering: eligible customer-generators.**

This bill would add local governments to the list of customers of an electric utility or large electrical corporation that are eligible for a net energy metering contract or tariff.

**4. Assembly Bill 2208 (Aguar-Curry): Electrical corporations: California Renewables Portfolio Standard Program: procurement plans.**

Requires that the Renewables Portfolio Standard least-cost best-fit methodology takes into account jobs retained associated with contracting for existing eligible renewable energy resources.

**5. Assembly Bill 2431 (Weber): Public Utilities Commission: proceedings: intervenor compensation.**

This bill would authorize public school districts, county offices of education, community college districts, or authorized representatives of those entities, to receive intervenor compensation.

**6. Assembly Bill 2537 (Carrillo): Telecommunications universal service programs: Lifeline Oversight Board.**

This bill would repeal the Universal Lifeline Telephone Service Trust Administrative Committee and establish the Lifeline and Broadband Oversight Board to perform specified duties related to the LifeLine program. The bill would additionally require the commission to (1) establish a 90% lifeline participation goal for all eligible California households, (2) assign staff and provide technical support to the board, and work with the board and other specified entities to increase participation in the lifeline program, (3) ensure the needs of low-income lifeline subscribers are met, and (4) provide formal notice of board meetings in the commission's daily calendar.

**7. Assembly Bill 2569 (Arambula): Electricity rates.**

Requires the California Public Utilities Commission, before authorizing an electrical corporation to employ default time-of-use rates for residential customers, to explicitly consider evidence addressing the extent to which hardship will be caused on customers living in low-income disadvantaged communities.

**8. Assembly Bill 2636 (Eduardo Garcia): Attorney General: Environmental Justice Fund.**

This bill would create the Environmental Justice Fund. The bill would require that the fund be used, upon appropriation by the Legislature, by the Attorney General to provide additional support for investigations and litigation intended to protect people and communities that endure a disproportionate share of environmental pollution.

**9. Assembly Bill 2652 (Quirk): Telecommunications: universal service.**

This bill would require the commission to consider including a 6-month portability freeze in the LifeLine program. The bill would require a provider of mobile telephony service providing lifeline service to offer, as part of the service, a plan that includes unlimited minutes, unlimited text messages, and, to the extent possible, unlimited mobile data service. The bill would require the commission, on or before June 30, 2019, to adopt a rule to improve the cost-effectiveness of the delivery of the lifeline program, and would require the commission to consider certain features for inclusion in the rule.

**10. Assembly Bill 2695 (Ting): Energy storage systems.**

This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation related to energy storage systems.

**11. Assembly Bill 3001 (Bonta): Zero-emissions buildings and sources of heat energy.**

This bill would require the California Energy Commission to consider greenhouse gas emissions in their cost-effectiveness analysis when developing the building energy efficiency standards and to make all residential and nonresidential buildings electric-ready. It would also require the California Public Utilities Commission to require electrical corporations to develop a tariff offering optional residential and commercial rates that encourage the deployment of flexible electric loads, identify and make policy changes to support the achievement of zero-emissions buildings, revise its 3-prong fuel substitution test, as specified, include societal and environmental costs of energy use in determining the cost-effectiveness

of programs under its jurisdiction, and include thermal storage and electric vehicle smart charging as qualifying resources for incentives and procurement requirements for energy storage systems.

**12. Assembly Bill 3111 (Eduardo Garcia): Telecommunications: universal service.**

Changes requirement that there be one LifeLine subscription per household, to one subscription per family. Requires the Commission to outreach to students, veterans, and the formerly incarcerated.

**13. Senate Bill 819 (Hill, Dodd, McGuire, Wiener): Electrical corporations: rates.**

Prohibits an electric corporation from recovering through a rate approved by the California Public Utilities Commission an uninsured expense resulting from damages caused by the electric corporation if the California Public Utilities Commission finds that they did not act reasonably.

**14. Senate Bill 822 (Wiener): Broadband Internet access service.**

This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation to effectuate net neutrality in California utilizing the state's regulatory powers and to prevent Internet service providers from engaging in practices inconsistent with net neutrality.

**15. Senate Bill 998 (Dodd): Water shutoffs: urban and community water systems.**

This bill would require a public water system that supplies water to more than 200 service connections to have a written policy on residential service shutoff available in English, Spanish, or any other language spoken by at least 5% of the people in its service area. The bill would require the policy to include certain components and be available on the system's Internet Web site and be provided annually to customers in writing. This bill would additionally prohibit an urban and community water system from shutting off residential service until a payment by a customer has been delinquent for at least 60 days, and would place various related requirements and prohibitions.

**16. Senate Bill 1028 (Hill): Public utilities: rates: federal tax law changes.**

Requires the California Public Utilities Commission to evaluate the effects of House Resolution 1 upon expenses incurred by public utilities for payment of federal taxes and requires the California Public Utilities Commission to adjust rates of each public utility within 90 days after any probable savings are determined.

**17. Senate Bill 1135 (Bradford): Electric and gas service: rates: California Alternate Rates for Energy program.**

Expands the California Alternate Rates for Energy program by allowing electric and gas customers whose incomes are greater than 200% of the federal poverty guideline levels to participate if the California Public Utilities Commission finds that the cost of living in the geographical area where those consumers reside is disproportionately high relative to other geographic regions served by an electrical or gas corporation and finds that expanding eligibility for electric and gas customers in that high-cost geographic region is needed in order to maintain health, safety, or quality of life.

**18. Senate Bill 1358 (Hueso): Public Utilities Commission: proceedings: hearings.**

Requires the assigned commissioner, rather than the commission, to determine, as part of the scoping memo, whether the proceeding requires a hearing.

**19. Senate Bill 1440 (Hueso): Biomethane.**

This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation to establish biomethane procurement goals.

**20. Senate Bill 1488 (Hernandez): Public utilities: procurement from women-, minority-, disabled veteran-owned, and LGBT business enterprises.**

Makes a non-substantive revision to the findings and declarations the California Public Utilities Commission's supplier diversity outreach program.