



California Public Utilities Commission

Legislative Bill Update – Office of Governmental Affairs

*Bills of Interest to the Low-Income Oversight Board
Meeting – Thursday June 17th, 2021*

On Friday June 4th both houses of the Legislature had their “House of Origin” deadlines, which is the last day for each house to pass bills introduced in that house. Several bills of interest to the Low-Income Oversight Board (LIOB) are still active and are summarized below:

1. Assembly Bill 1058 (C. Garcia) - Water corporations: bill payment options.

This bill would extend an existing credit-card payment pilot program for water corporations until January 1, 2027; would require the commission, in consultation with the LIOB to submit another report relative to the pilot program by July 1, 2025.

***Status:** In Senate Energy, Utilities & Communications pending hearing.*

2. Senate Bill 222 (Dodd) - Water Rate Assistance Program.

Would establish the Water Affordability Assistance Fund in the State Treasury to help provide water affordability assistance, for both drinking water and wastewater services, to low-income ratepayers and ratepayers experiencing economic hardship in California. The bill would require, by July 1, 2022, the Public Utilities Commission to establish a mechanism for electrical corporations and gas corporations to regularly share specified customer data with the state board, subject to certain confidentiality protections. To the extent this provision would impose new requirements on local publicly owned electric utilities and local publicly owned gas utilities, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

***Status:** In Assembly Rules pending referral to committee.*

3. Senate Bill 756 (Hueso) - Home weatherization for low-income customers..

Redefines "low-income customers" for eligibility purposes of home weatherization programs to mean low-income persons and families whose household income is at or below 250% of the federal poverty level.

***Status:** In Assembly Utilities & Energy Committee pending hearing.*