

California Public Utilities Commission

Legislative Bill Update - Office of Governmental Affairs

Bills of Interest to the Low-Income Oversight Board Quarterly Meeting – Friday October 13th, 2023

The 2023 Legislative Year concluded on September 14th. As summarized below, several bills of interest to the Low-Income Oversight Board (LIOB) passed and will be presented to the Governor. The last day for the Governor to sign or veto bills passed by the Legislature is October 14th.

1. Senate Bill 355 (Eggman) - Multifamily Affordable Housing Solar Roofs Program.

This bill extends the sunset date for the Solar on Multifamily Affordable Housing (SOMAH) program from December 2030 to December 2032, expands the eligibility criteria that determines whether a multifamily residential building is eligible for the program to include multifamily buildings and mobile home park complexes located in Tribal territory, and authorizes the CPUC to provide advance loans to eligible applicants.

Status: Passed; Enrolled and presented to the Governor on September 18th

2. Assembly Bill 41 (Holden) – Telecommunications: The Digital Equity in Video Franchising Act of 2023.

This bill revises the Digital Infrastructure and Video Competition Act of 2006 (DIVCA) to modify state cable franchising requirements, clarifying the authority of the CPUC to establish and enforce the limited digital equity requirements for cable franchise holders that exist in current law. This bill also increases penalties that a local agency is authorized to assess on a franchise holder for breach of customer service standards.

Status: Passed; Enrolled and presented to the Governor on September 15th

3. Assembly Bill 414 (Reyes) - Communications: Digital Equity Bill of Rights.

This bill would establish a principle of the state to ensure digital equity for all residents and establish a policy goal that, to the extent technically feasible, broadband subscribers benefit from equal access to service.

Status: Passed; Enrolled and presented to the Governor on September 13th