



October 1, 2010

The final deadline of the 2009/2010 legislative session ended at midnight on September 30th, when the governor had to sign or veto bills sent to him by the Legislature. Farm Bureau had a successful legislative session with numerous tallies in the win column. Below is a summary of the Governor's vetoes and bill signings.

Still unresolved is the state budget and the "Big Five" (which includes the governor and the four party leaders in each house of the legislature) are working to reach agreement on the state's spending plan for the current fiscal year. At this writing it appears that that may happen sometime soon. Once agreement is reached the legislature must then approve the budget and any budget "trailer" bills that are part of that agreement.

The Governor signed the following bills that Farm Bureau either sponsored or supported:

- [SB 1303](#) (Lois Wolk, D-Linden) - Extends the Endangered Species Act accidental take provisions of the law that protects farmers and ranchers. (CFBF Sponsored)
- [SB 1349](#) (Dave Cogdill, R-Fresno) – Allows for incidental take of experimental populations of salmon introduced under the San Joaquin River Restoration Program.
- [AB 1260](#) (Jean Fuller, R-Bakersfield) – Provides for a modification of commission member terms for the California Water Commission.
- [AB 1265](#) (Anna Caballero, D-Salinas) – Delays the vote on the Water Bond proposal approved by the Legislature during the special session earlier in the year until November of 2012.
- [AB 1437](#) (Jared Huffman, D-San Rafael) – Provides that all eggs sold in California be produced via Prop. 2 standards to level the playing field for California producers).
- [AB 2163](#) (Tony Mendoza, D-Artesia) –Allows two additional extensions for timber harvest plans from 2 one-year extensions to 4 one-year extensions.
- [AB 2240](#) (Fiona Ma, D-San Francisco) - Provides additional funding for the CDFA Market Enforcement Program which helps secure crop sales payments from buyers. (CFBF Sponsored)

- [AB 2530](#) (Jim Nielsen, R-Biggs) - Provides an alternative for counties that are considering exiting the Williamson Act through the mass nonrenewal of their landowner contracts. (CFBF Sponsored)
- [AB 2612](#) (Assembly Ag Committee) - Enables streamlining of organic farm registration process. (CFBF Sponsored)

The Governor vetoed the following bills that Farm Bureau opposed:

- [SB 1157](#) (Mark DeSaulnier, D-Antioch) – Would have increased in Pesticide Mil Assessment to fund integrated pest management programs at schools.
- [SB 1433](#) (Mark Leno, D-San Francisco) – Would have automatically tied penalties for air law violations to the Consumer Price Index.
- [SB 1474](#) (Darrell Steinberg, D-Sacramento) – Would have allowed the Agricultural Labor Relations Board to set aside an election and designate a union for farm workers in cases of employer misconduct that changed the outcome of an election.
- [AB 1405](#) (Kevin de Leon, D-Los Angeles) – Would have created a California Climate Change Community Benefits fund by requiring a minimum of 10% of revenues generated from sources under AB 32 to be deposited into the fund for use in disadvantaged communities.
- [AB 1881](#) (William Monning, D-Santa Cruz) – Would have doubled liquidated damages for minimum wage violations.
- [AB 2187](#) (Juan Arambula, D-Fresno) – Would have created a new crime and new penalties for untimely payment of wages including jail time when an employee quits or is discharged.
- [AB 2304](#) (Jared Huffman, D-San Rafael) – Would have allowed groundwater mapping without notification of property owners.

The Governor also vetoed Farm Bureau supported [AB 2446](#) (Warren Furutani, D-Long Beach) which would have placed Career Technical Education within the state high school curriculum and allow each student to choose to sign-up for in lieu of a single course in either foreign language or the arts to meet graduation requirements. He signed [AB 2376](#) (Jared Huffman, D-San Rafael) relating to Department of Fish and Game strategic planning which Farm Bureau opposed because it could drive the department to raise fees to cover more of its costs.

The Governor also signed into law two new commission bills, [AB 1912](#) (Noreen Evans, D-Santa Rosa) which will enable the establishment of a California Apiary Research Commission and [AB 2695](#) (Ed Hernandez, D-Baldwin Park) authorizing the industry to form a California Nursery Producers Commission. Both commissions are subject to approval through a referendum by the respective producer groups.