

# October 2023 CalOPS

## Policy, Compliance, and State Accountability Report

---

### Governor Newsom Signs LGBTQ+ Legislation

In one of Governor Gavin Newsom's first major legislative actions this fall, several LGBTQ+ related education bills were signed into law over the weekend. These bills, which will become law on January 1, 2024, include the following:

- Assembly Bill (AB) 5 (Zbur, Statutes of 2023) requires local educational agencies (LEAs) to provide at least one hour of training annually to all certificated staff, beginning with the 2025-26 school year through the 2029-30 school year, on cultural competency in supporting LGBTQ+ students.
- Senate Bill (SB) 760 (Newman, Statutes of 2023) requires LEAs to provide at least one all-gender restroom for pupil use at each of its school sites by July 1, 2026.
- SB 857 (Laird, Statutes of 2023) will require the State Superintendent of Public Instruction (SSPI), on or before July 1, 2024, to convene an advisory task force to identify the statewide needs of LGBTQ+ pupils and report its findings to the Legislature, SSPI, and Governor by January 1, 2026.

### Governor Newsom Signs Book Banning Bill

On September 25, 2023, Governor Gavin Newsom signed Assembly Bill (AB) 1078 (Jackson, Statutes of 2023) into law. As an urgency measure, the bill went into effect immediately upon the Governor's signature.

AB 1078 prohibits a governing board from refusing to use or prohibit the use of any textbook, instructional material, supplemental instructional material, or other curriculum for classroom instruction or any book or other resource in a school library on the basis that it includes a study of the role and contributions of any individual or group. Any violation of this requirement from a governing board constitutes as unlawful discrimination and thus authorizes complaints to be filed with the applicable local educational agency (LEA) under the Uniform Complaint Procedures or with the State Superintendent of Public Instruction (SSPI) directly.

\* Sourced from Schools Services of California, Inc.

### AB 1604 - Charter School Facility Grant Program

This week Assembly Bill 1604 by Assemblymember Mia Bonta (D - Alameda) was approved by the legislature. AB 1604 is a terrible bill by charter school opponents aimed at choking off one of the few sources of public facility funding for charter schools serving low-income communities.

The bill is now headed to Governor Gavin Newsom (D) to sign, veto, or if he takes no action, to become law. This is not the outcome that we advocated for, and there is more advocacy needed to ask the administration to veto the bill.

\*Sourced from CSDC

## Laws: Newsom has until Oct. 14 to sign or veto bills. Some bills of interest:

- Retired teachers: Senate Bill 765 would temporarily increase the amount teachers can earn post-retirement so that they can return to the classroom to take teaching positions that districts otherwise can't fill. The temporary measure would start July 1, 2024, and end on July 1, 2026.
- Seal of biliteracy: In order to earn the state seal of biliteracy on their high school diploma, students must show proficiency in English and another language. Assembly Bill 370 gives more opportunities for students to show proficiency in English, including high school GPA, standardized test scores, college-level English language arts class, Advanced Placement exams or SAT scores.
- Newcomer data: Assembly Bill 714 requires the state to report the number of newcomer students, defined as students who were born in another country and arrived in the U.S. within the past three years.
- Reporting Smarter Balanced results: The California Department of Education will face a deadline to release Smarter Balanced results and other state testing data by Oct. 15 each year, starting in the fall of 2024, as a result of legislation that Newsom signed earlier this month.

\*Compiled by Laura Johnson, PVS