



UPCOMING EVENTS

CASH Web-Shop

Athletic Facilities: Planning
for Maintenance
November 2, 2023

**45th Annual Conference
on School Facilities**

February 28 – March 1,
2024
Sacramento SAFE Credit
Union Convention Center

Visit the CASH website
(www.cashnet.org) for
more information and to
register for these events!

UPDATE

Bond Bill Work Continues Through Recess

With the Legislature in Interim Recess through the end of the year and bond stakeholder meetings on pause, advocates continue to develop language to flesh out various provisions of AB 247 (Muratsuchi), the CASH-supported school facilities bond bill. The Administration is focused on its March 2024 mental health services bond and has indicated its intent to engage in the development of a school facilities bond in 2024.

Governor Signs Contracting and Procurement Legislation

The Governor completed his work to sign or veto bills on October 14. As part of this final push, he signed the following bills into law:

— **AB 334 (Rubio) – Conflicts of Interest**

This bill was sponsored by the American Council of Engineering Companies of California. AB 334 specifies that an “independent contractor” who has performed work on one phase of a project may enter into a subsequent contract for a later phase of the same project. Such independent contractors are not considered an “officer” for purposes of the conflict of interest statute (Government Code Section 1090) as long as they do not advise the public entity on public contracting. AB 334 reflects guidance on this issue that was developed by the Fair Political Practices Commission. CASH was neutral on AB 334.

— **AB 1121 (Haney) – Public Works Ineligibility List**

This bill was sponsored by the International Union of Operating Engineers, CA-Nevada Conference. This bill attempts to solve the issue of contractors who have violated labor laws continuing to bid on public works projects. AB 1121 requires awarding authorities, including school districts, to annually submit to the Department of Industrial Relations (DIR) a list of contractors that are ineligible to bid on or be awarded a public works contract pursuant to *local* level debarment or suspension processes. CASH was neutral on AB 1121.

Key Legislation: Extreme Heat Mitigation and Water Quality

The State’s climate change goals and policies have a significant impact on school facilities and maintenance, including policies on air and water quality, sustainable schools, energy efficiency, solar and battery storage, disaster preparedness, organic waste recycling, and related issues.

— **SB 499 (Menjivar) – Extreme Heat Action Plans**

In 2023, the most significant policy priority was managing extreme heat on school sites, with many bills introduced on this topic, including SB 499 (Menjivar), which would have required schools to have an Extreme Heat Action Plan and present the use of high heat surfaces such as concrete, asphalt,



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and artificial turf. Many of these bills included a requirement or incentive for green school yards as the primary method of reducing extreme heat on school sites. While SB 499 was vetoed, we expect extreme heat mitigation and green schoolyards to be popular issues, with more legislation likely introduced next year.

— **SB 515 (Stern) – Shade Structures**

This bill limits the cost of complying with path of travel requirements (20 percent of the adjusted construction cost) for shade structures and was signed by the Governor.

— **AB 249 (Holden) – Lead Testing**

Concerning drinking water quality for K-12 schools, AB 249 (Holden) was introduced this year, which would lower the trigger for testing from 15 ppb to 5 ppb and require testing at all school potable water outlets. Like SB 499, this bill was ultimately vetoed due to cost impact, but the interest in lowering the standard to 5 ppb remains strong, and federal rulemaking is underway to require this more stringent standard.

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