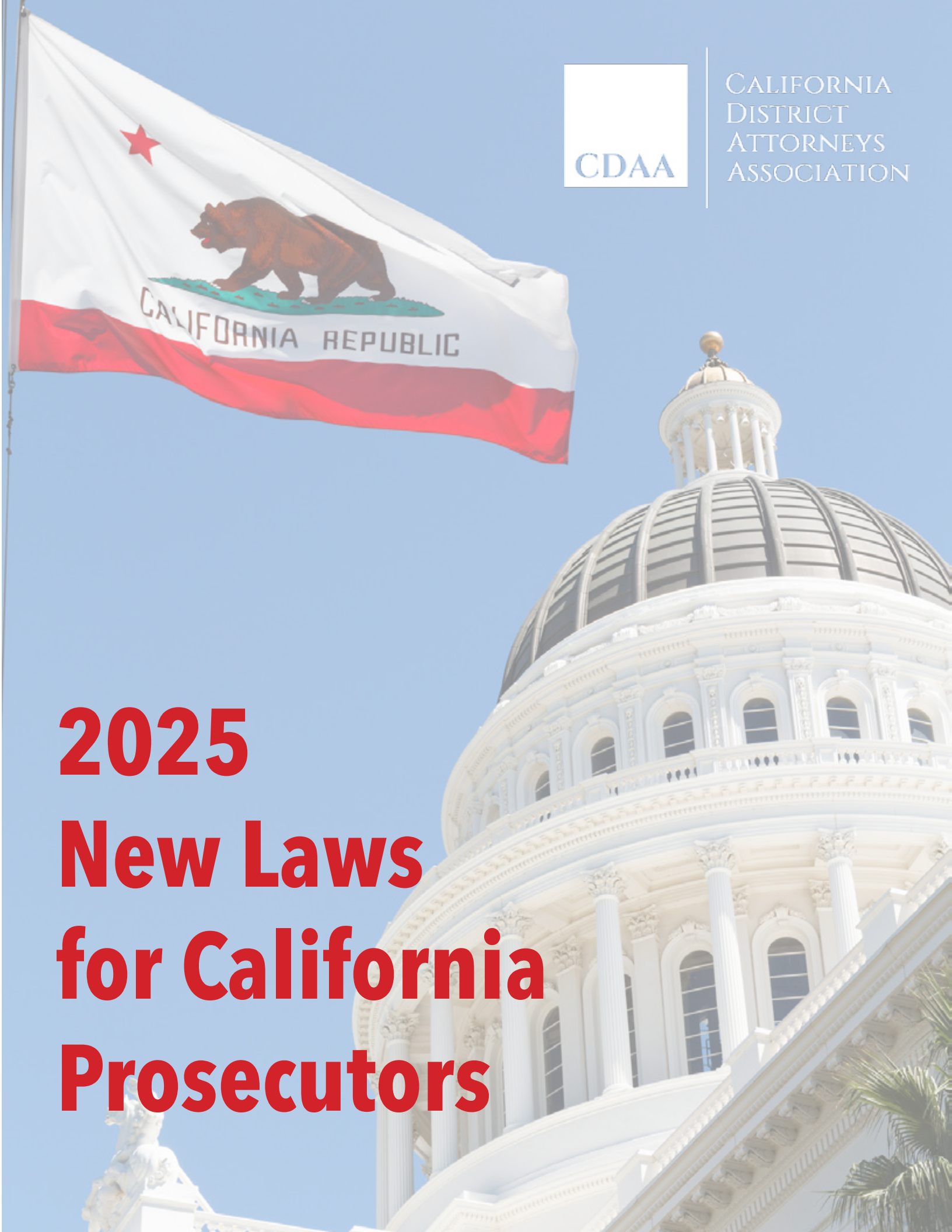




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The background of the entire page is a photograph of the California State Capitol building in Sacramento, showing its iconic dome and classical columns. In the upper left corner, the California state flag is flying, featuring a red star, a grizzly bear, and the words "CALIFORNIA REPUBLIC".

2025 New Laws for California Prosecutors

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Dori Ahana (Marin County Chief Deputy District Attorney)
Michelle Contois (Ventura County Senior Deputy District Attorney)
Ivy Fitzpatrick (Riverside County Chief Deputy District Attorney)
Nicholas Hunt (San Francisco Assistant District Attorney)
Kathy Storton (Santa Clara County Deputy District Attorney [retired])

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California District Attorneys Association
2495 Natomas Park Drive, Suite 575
Sacramento, CA 95833

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ALCOHOL

AB 509 – Alcoholic beverages: minors (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Provides that the use of an active age verification software or device to establish the age of a purchaser of alcoholic beverages that fails to identify a false identification card is considered evidence in any prosecution or proceedings against the licensee, if the identification is bona fide evidence and was physically inspected, is seemingly legitimate, and matches the physical appearance of the customer. [Amends B&P 25660]

ANIMALS

AB 506 – Pets: sales of dogs, cats, and rabbits (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Provides that a contract entered into on or after January 1, 2026, to transfer ownership of a dog, cat, or rabbit that is offered, negotiated, brokered, or otherwise arranged by a person, pet dealer, or business, while the purchaser is located in California, is void as against public policy if the contract includes or requires a non-refundable deposit. Requires these sellers to disclose the original source and medical information of the animal. Authorizes suit against any violators in court for the recovery of money exchanged pursuant to that contract, injunctive relief, and other remedies the court deems appropriate. Authorize a purchaser affected by a violation to bring a civil action and entitles a prevailing plaintiff to reasonable attorney's fees and costs. Also authorizes the Attorney General, a county counsel, a district attorney, a city attorney, or a city prosecutor to enforce these provisions.

If money has been exchanged pursuant to a contract that is void pursuant to these provisions, the seller is required to refund the money to the purchaser within 30 days of receiving notice that the contract is void without expectation that the purchaser return the contract subject. Specifies that these provisions do not limit a contract for the transfer of ownership of an animal by or to a governmental agency or the transfer of ownership of a guide, signal, or service dog. Specifies that these provisions do not apply to a public animal control agency or shelter. [Adds H&S 122225–122231]

AB 519 – Pet broker sales (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Prohibits, subject to specified exemptions, a broker from making available for adoption, selling, or

offering for sale a dog under one year of age, a cat, or rabbit. Defines a broker as a person or business that sells, arranges, negotiates, or processes, either in person or online, the sale of dogs, cats, or rabbits bred by another for profit and includes facilitating the transfer of those animals for profit. [Adds H&S 122365, 122365.1]

AB 1319 – Protected species: California Endangered Species Act (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Creates a new misdemeanor crime that prohibits the importing, exporting, transporting, selling, offering to sell, etc., of any fish, wildlife, or plant taken, possessed, transported, or sold in violation of any law, statute, or treaty in effect on January 19, 2025. Sets forth the punishment for first convictions and second and subsequent convictions. Provides for a three-year statute of limitations. Provides definitions and authorizes the Department of Fish & Wildlife to do specified things, such as monitor the actions of federal authorities that could result in a decrease in endangered or threatened species protections. [Adds and repeals F&G 2017, 2076.7]

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

SB 53 – Artificial intelligence models: large developers (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Establishes the Transparency in Frontier Artificial Intelligence Act, requiring large developers to write and implement policies on frontier AI framework that applies to models. Creates new reporting requirements on critical safety incidents to the Office of Emergency Services. Allows for the Attorney General, only, to bring a civil action to enforce reporting requirements. [Adds B&P 22757.10, 227575.11, 22757.12, 22757.13, 22757.14, 22757.16; adds Gov't C. 11546.8; adds Labor C. 1107, 1107.1, 1107.2]

ATTORNEYS

SB 37 – Attorneys: unlawful solicitations and advertisements (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Amends B&P 6153–6158.7, and adds new B&P 6156.5, regarding attorney advertising. [Amends B&P 6153, 6155, 6157, 6157.2, 6158.4, 6158.5, 6158.7; adds B&P 6156.6]

SB 253 – State Bar of California (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Among other provisions, this bill, until January 1, 2027, requires the board to fix the annual

license fee for active licensees for 2026 at a sum not exceeding \$400, and the annual license fee for inactive licensees at a sum not exceeding \$100. [Amends B&P 6006, 6013.1, 6026.7, 6046.6, 6086.5, 6106.9, 6126.7, 6140, 6141, 6141.3, 6173]

BAIL

AB 82 – Health care: legally protected health care activity (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Requires a uniform county-wide schedule of bail to set \$0 bail for an individual who has been arrested in connection with a proceeding in another state regarding an individual performing, supporting, or aiding in the performance of a legally protected health care activity in this state, or an individual obtaining a legally protected health care activity in this state, as specified. [Amends P.C. 1269b]

BATTERY

AB 394 – Battery committed on public transportation providers (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Amends P.C. 243.3 to add public transportation providers and employees or contractors of a transportation provider as specified battery victims in this section. Also amends Code Civ. Proc. 527.8 (which permits an employer to obtain a workplace violence restraining order) to add a cross-reference to P.C. 243.3 in the definition of “unlawful violence” and to add public transit operators to the definition of “employer.” [Amends Code Civ. Proc. 527.8; amends P.C. 243.3]

BURGLARY

AB 486 – Burglary tools (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Amends P.C. 466 to add “key programming device,” “key duplicating device,” and “signal extender” to the list of items it is illegal to possess with the intent feloniously to break or enter a building, vehicle, railroad car, aircraft, or vessel. Also adds definitions of these new items. [Amends P.C. 466]

CALIFORNIA PUBLIC RECORDS ACT

AB 343 – CPRA: elected or appointed officials (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Includes in the definition of “elected or appointed official” in the California Public Records Act (Gov’t C. 7920.500), a retired

judge or court commissioner, an active or retired judge of the State Bar Court, a retired federal judge or federal defender, a retired judge of a federally recognized Indian tribe, and an appointee of a court to serve as children’s counsel in a family or dependency proceeding. [Amends Gov’t C. 7920.500]

AB 370 – CPRA: cyberattacks (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Amends Gov’t C. 7922.535 to include cyberattacks to the list of unusual circumstances that justify an agency extending the time to respond to a public records request. [Amends Gov’t C. 7922.535]

AB 1178 – Peace officers: confidentiality of records (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Amends P.C. 832.7 to require a court to consider redacting records that are to be disclosed, when the peace officer is currently operating undercover and their duties demand anonymity. [Amends P.C. 832.7]

AB 1521 – Committee on Judiciary: judiciary omnibus (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Adds P.C. 76.5 to read: (a) No person shall knowingly post the home address or telephone number of any elected or appointed official, or of the official’s residing spouse or child, on the internet knowing that person is an elected or appointed official and intending to cause imminent great bodily harm that is likely to occur or threatening to cause imminent great bodily harm to that individual. (b) A violation of this section is a misdemeanor. (c) A violation of this section that leads to the bodily injury of the official, or the official’s residing spouse or child, is a misdemeanor or a felony. Section 1798.84.1 is added to the Civil Code, to read: (a) No person, business, or association shall solicit, sell, or trade on the internet the home address or telephone number of an elected or appointed official with the intent to cause imminent great bodily harm to the official or to any person residing at the official’s home address. (b) Notwithstanding any other law, an official whose home address or telephone number is solicited, sold, or traded in violation of subdivision (a) may bring an action in any court of competent jurisdiction. (c) If a jury or court finds that a violation has occurred, it shall award damages to that official in an amount up to a maximum of three times the actual damages but in no case less than four thousand dollars (\$4,000). [Amends B&P 10157.5; amends Civ. C. 1785.27,

1788.2, 2923.7, 2924.18, 2924f; adds Civ. C. 1798.84.1; amends Code Civ. Proc. 697.530, 1141.30, 1710.45, 2016.040, 2023.010, 2030.020, 2031.020, 2033.020; amends Corp. C. 15800; amends Gov't C. 12974; repeals Gov't C. 7928.210, 7928.215, 7928.220, 7928.225, 7928.230; amends H&S 103470; adds P.C. 76.5; amends Probate C. 9202; amends W&I 319]

CANNABIS

AB 8 – Cannabinoids: industrial hemp (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Amends and adds numerous sections relating to cannabis in the Business & Professions Code, Health & Safety Code, and Revenue & Taxation Code. Makes synthetic cannabis products and inhalable cannabis products containing cannabinoids derived from hemp illegal. Integrates products containing concentrated cannabinoids derived from hemp, other than CBD isolate, into the state's licensed and regulated cannabis supply chain. Aside from a pure CBD isolate, all other products would fall under the definition of a cannabis product. [Amends B&P 26001, 26002, 26015, 26031.6, 26036, 26038, 26039.4, 26039.6, 26051.5, 26060, 26067, 26068, 26069, 26070, 26070.2, 26080, 26100, 26110, 26152, 26200; adds B&P 22980.6, 26000.5; amends H&S 11006.5, 11018, 11018.1, 11018.5, 11357.5, 11361, 110611, 111691, 111920, 111921, 111921.5, 111921.6, 111922.3, 111923.3, 111925, 111925.2, 111926, 111926.2, 111926.3, 111927.2, 113091; amends and repeals H&S 111923.9; adds H&S 111921.1, 111921.8; adds and repeals H&S 111929.5; repeals H&S 111929–111929.4; adds Tax & Rev. 34010, 34013, 34014, 34016; adds Tax & Rev. 34015.3.]

SB 378 – Online marketplaces: illicit cannabis: reporting and liability (*Effective July 1, 2026*): Requires an online cannabis marketplace to address in its terms of service whether it permits Californians to view the advertisements and business information of unlicensed sellers on its marketplace and whether the marketplace verifies sellers' licenses. Requires a marketplace that does not verify those licenses to display a clear and conspicuous graphic that warns the consumer that the marketplace may be displaying, storing, or hosting unlicensed sellers of cannabis or cannabis products.

Requires an online cannabis marketplace to establish a clear and conspicuous mechanism within its internet-based service that allows

an individual to report an unlicensed seller of cannabis or cannabis products. Requires the mechanism to provide the individual who submits a report with written confirmation of receipt of the report, periodic updates, and final written determination. Imposes certain penalties and relief depending on the violation of these provisions. Requires an online hemp marketplace to establish a clear and conspicuous mechanism within its internet-based service that allows an individual to report to an advertisement for an intoxicating hemp product. Defines "intoxicating hemp product" to include an inhalable hemp product, as further defined, with a detectable THC concentration.

Requires the mechanism to provide the individual who submits a report with written confirmation of receipt of the report, periodic updates, and final written determination. Imposes specified penalties and relief for violations of these provisions.

Prohibits an online marketplace from engaging in unlawful paid online advertising related to unlicensed sellers of cannabis or cannabis products or intoxicating hemp products. Imposes joint and several liability on an online marketplace that violates that prohibition and is a substantial factor in an unlawful transaction for damages. Increases the amount that a prevailing plaintiff may recover. Provides various affirmative defenses to an action brought under these provisions and authorizes an online marketplace to seek indemnification against an advertiser who misrepresented to the online marketplace that they were licensed or registered to sell that product. [Adds B&P 22943, 22943.2, 22943.4, 22943.6, 22944; adds Civ. C. 1714.74]

CIVIL ACTIONS/PENALTIES/PROCEDURES

AB 45 – Privacy, health data: location and research (*Effective January 1, 2026*): New Civil C. 1798.99.92 makes it unlawful to geofence an entity that provides in-person health care services for any one of several specified purposes, such as to identify or track a person seeking health care services. Authorizes the Attorney General to bring a civil action to recover a civil penalty of \$25,000 per violation. This bill contains other changes relating to geofencing and health care. [Amends Civ. C. 17988.99.90, 1798.99.91, 1798.99.92, 1798.99.93; amends H&S 150]

AB 82 – Health care: legally protected health care activity (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Amends several Penal Code, Government Code, and Health & Safety Code sections relating to “legally protected health care activity.”

Amends P.C. 629.51 (wiretapping), P.C. 1269b, P.C. 13778.2, and P.C. 13778.3. (P.C. 13778.2 and 13778.3 are a part of the “Reproductive Rights Law Enforcement Act”). P.C. 629.51, P.C. 1269b, and P.C. 13788.2 are amended to change “abortion” to “legally protected health care activity.”

P.C. 13788.3 is amended to add a new subdivision (g) to authorize the Attorney General to bring a civil action against a person who submits a false affidavit pursuant to P.C. 13788.3(d), which provides that any out-of-state subpoena, warrant, wiretap order, pen register trap and trace order, legal process, or request from any law enforcement agent or entity shall include an affidavit or declaration under penalty of perjury that the discovery is not in connection with an out-of-state proceeding relating to any legally protected health care activity. *NOTE*: “legally protected health care activity” is already defined in existing P.C. 1549.15. [Amends Gov’t C. 6215, 6215.1, 6215.2, 6218, 6218.01, 6218.05; amends H&S 11165, 11190; P.C. 629.51, 1269b, 13778.2, 13778.3]

AB 250 – Sexual assault: statute of limitations (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Extends the eligibility period for revival of certain claims seeking to recover damages suffered as a result of a sexual assault that occurred on or after the plaintiff’s 18th birthday when one or more entities are legally responsible for damages and the entity or their agents engaged in a cover up that would otherwise be barred prior to January 1, 2026, because the applicable statute of limitations has or had expired. Requires a revived claim against an entity to allege that the plaintiff was sexually assaulted and that (1) one or more entities or persons are legally responsible for damages arising out of sexual assault by an alleged perpetrator against the plaintiff, and (2) an entity or entities, including their specified representatives, engaged in a cover up or attempted a cover up of a previous instance or allegations of sexual assault by an alleged perpetrator. It additionally revives a claim against the person who committed the sexual assault brought by a plaintiff who alleges, among other things, that one or more entities or persons are legally responsible for damages arising out of the

sexual assault. Specifies that failure to allege a cover up as to one entity does not affect revival of a claim or claims against any other entity or person, including the perpetrator. Permits a cause of action for any such claim to proceed if already pending in court on the effective date of the bill or, if not filed by that date, to be commenced between January 1, 2026, and December 31, 2027. Exempts public entities from these provisions and provides that public entities are not required to indemnify perpetrators of sexual assault, as specified. [Amends Code Civ. Proc. 340.16]

AB 379 – Crimes: prostitution (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Increases the civil penalty for a business that fails to post a required notice about human trafficking and adds that the Attorney General may enforce this section. Increases the civil penalties for a hotel whose supervisory employee with knowledge of sex trafficking activity fails to act, or whose employee participates in such activity. Adds the Attorney General to those entities (city and county attorneys) who may enforce this section.

Amends P.C. 647(l) to make the solicitation of a minor who is more than three years younger than the defendant a felony-misdemeanor crime (a “wobbler”). A second violation is a non-alternative felony. Retains as a wobbler (and as a non-alternative felony for a second conviction) the solicitation of a minor under age 16, and the solicitation of a minor under age 18 who was the victim of human trafficking. Requires that a defendant granted probation be ordered to complete an education program about human trafficking. Requires a convicted defendant to pay a fine of \$1,000 to the Survivors Support Fund (see new P.C. 647.5, below) if compensation, money, or anything of value was paid.

Adds new P.C. 647.5 to require the California Victim Compensation Board to establish a grant program for community-based organizations that provide services to victims of sex trafficking and exploitation. Establishes the Survivor Support Fund in the State Treasury.

Adds new P.C. 653.25, which is the new infraction crime of loitering in a public place with the intent to purchase commercial sex. Punishable by a \$1,000 fine. [*NOTE*: This new crime is not labeled as an infraction or as a misdemeanor. It appears to be an infraction crime because it is punishable by a fine and because it does not specify any jail time or that it is a misdemeanor; however,

subdivision (b) says that the fine is “in addition to any other punishment.”.]

New P.C. 13849 establishes in the Office of Emergency Services a program of financial and technical assistance for district attorney offices for the prosecution of human trafficking crimes, defined as P.C. 236.1 crimes and P.C. 647(l) crimes. Requires vertical prosecution. Provides that up to 11 district attorney offices are to be awarded funds. [Amends Civ. C. 52.6 and 52.65; amends P.C. 647; adds P.C. 647.5, 653.25, 13849]

AB 506 – Pets: sales of dogs, cats, and rabbits

(Effective January 1, 2026): Provides that a contract entered into on or after January 1, 2026, to transfer ownership of a dog, cat, or rabbit that is offered, negotiated, brokered, or otherwise arranged by a person, pet dealer, or business, while the purchaser is located in California, is void as against public policy if the contract includes or requires a non-refundable deposit. Requires these sellers to disclose the original source and medical information of the animal. Authorizes suit against any violators for the recovery of money exchanged pursuant to that contract, injunctive relief, and other remedies the court deems appropriate. Authorize a purchaser affected by a violation to bring a civil action and would entitle a prevailing plaintiff to reasonable attorney’s fees and costs. Also authorizes the Attorney General, a county counsel, a district attorney, a city attorney, or a city prosecutor to enforce these provisions.

If money has been exchanged pursuant to a contract that is void pursuant to these provisions, the seller is required to refund the money to the purchaser within 30 days of receiving notice that the contract is void without expectation that the purchaser return the contract subject. Specifies that these provisions do not limit a contract for the transfer of ownership of an animal by or to a governmental agency or the transfer of ownership of a guide, signal, or service dog. Specifies that these provisions do not apply to a public animal control agency or shelter. [Adds H&S 122225–122231]

AB 621 – Deepfake pornography (Effective January 1, 2026): Existing law in Civil C. 1708.86 grants a depicted individual a cause of action against a person who creates/discloses deepfake pornography in their likeness without their consent. AB 621 amends Civil C. 1708.86 in

several ways, including adding a definition of “digitized sexually explicit materials,” addressing persons who own, operate, or control deepfake pornography services, and increasing the maximum damages. Adds that a public prosecutor may bring a civil action to enforce this section, and defines public prosecutor as a district attorney, city attorney, county counsel, city or county prosecutor, or the Attorney General. [Amends Civil C. 1708.86]

AB 851 – Real property transactions: counties of Los Angeles and Ventura wildfires:

unsolicited offers (Effective October 10, 2025): New Civil C. 2079.6 prohibits making an unsolicited offer to purchase residential real property in several specified ZIP codes. A district attorney, county counsel, city attorney, or the Attorney General may bring a civil action to enforce this new section. *NOTE:* The new version of Civil C. 2079.26 that is effective is in Section 1 of this bill, not Section 1.5. SB 641 was vetoed by the governor and therefore the version of Civil C. 2079.26 in Section 1.5 of the bill is not effective. [Adds Civil C. 2079.26]

AB 1002 – Contractors: failure to pay wages:

discipline (Effective January 1, 2026): Creates new B&P 7036 to authorize the Attorney General to “bring a civil action to impose discipline upon, to deny an application for, or to deny continued maintenance of, a contractor’s license. The civil action shall be brought on the grounds that a person has failed to pay its workers the full wages they are entitled to under state law, has not fulfilled a wage judgment, or is in violation of an injunction or court order regarding the payment of wages to its workers.” [Adds B&P 7036]

AB 1043 – Age verification signals: software applications and online services (Effective January 1, 2027): Creates the “Digital Age Assurance Act” in new Civil C. 1798.500–1798.505, to be operative on January 1, 2027. It creates a signaling infrastructure that allows developers to rely on a real-time, secure indicator of a user’s age bracket for purposes of complying with other California laws that require age verification. A person who violates the Act is subject to a civil penalty of up to \$2,500 per child for each negligent violation and up to \$7,500 per child for each intentional violation. Only the Attorney General can bring the civil action. [Adds Civil C. 1798.500–1798.505]

SB 294 – The Workplace Know Your Rights

Act (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Creates new Labor C. 1550–1559, called the “Workplace Know Your Rights Act.” Requires employers to provide specified notices to employees. Authorizes the Attorney General, or a “public prosecutor” defined in Labor C. 180 (which specifies district attorneys, the Attorney General, city attorneys, county counsels, and city and county prosecutors) to enforce this new Act by bringing a civil action. [Adds Labor C. 1550, 1551, 1552, 1553, 1554, 1555, 1556, 1557, 1558, 1559]

SB 645 – Juries: peremptory challenges (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Existing law prohibits using a peremptory challenge to remove prospective jurors based on race, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, national origin, or religious affiliation or perceived membership in any of these groups. This bill amends Code Civ. Proc. 231.7 to make that prohibition applicable to specified civil cases such as those involving a civil rights violation (actions alleging a violation against protected classes enumerated in subdivision (a), allegations of a violation of the Tom Bane Civil Rights Act, allegations of a violation of 42 U.S.C. 1983, Title VI of the federal Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d, et seq.), the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. 10301 et seq.), or the federal Fair Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 3601 et seq.), actions alleging a violation of the California Fair Employment and Housing Act (Part 2.8 (commencing with section 12900) of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code), including, but not limited to, actions alleging discrimination, harassment, or retaliation), actions for the civil commitment of a person, including a person who is determined to be a sexually violent predator pursuant to Article 4 (commencing with Section 6600) of Chapter 2 of Part 2 of Division 6 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, and civil cases for damages arising from a hate crime. Previously, this section was scheduled to apply to *all* civil cases starting January 1, 2026. [Amends and repeals Code Civ. Proc. 231.7]

SB 763 – Conspiracy against trade: punishment (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Amends B&P 16755 to increase the maximum fine for a violator that is a corporation from \$1 million to \$6 million, for a violation relating to Combinations in Restraint of Trade, and to increase the maximum fine for a violator who is an individual from \$250,000 to

\$1 million. [Existing B&P 16755(a)(2) also subjects a violator who is an individual to one, two, or three years in county jail pursuant to P.C. 1170(h).] Also creates new B&P 16755.1 and 16762. New B&P 16755.1 authorizes a civil penalty of up to \$1 million to be recovered in a civil action brought by a district attorney or the Attorney General. [Amends B&P 16755; adds B&P 16755.1, 16762]

CONSUMER PROTECTION

AB 325 – Cartwright Act: violations (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Provides that in a complaint for any violation of the Cartwright Act, it is sufficient to contain factual allegations demonstrating that the existence of a contract, combination in the form of a trust, or conspiracy to restrain trade or commerce is plausible. Provides that a complaint for any violation of the Cartwright Act is not required to allege facts tending to exclude the possibility of independent action. [The Cartwright Act identifies certain acts that are unlawful restraints of trade and unlawful trusts and prescribes provisions for its enforcement.]

Makes it unlawful for a person to use or distribute a common pricing algorithm as part of a contract, combination in the form of a trust, or conspiracy to restrain trade or commerce. Makes it unlawful for a person to use or distribute a common pricing algorithm if the person coerces another person to set or adopt a recommended price or commercial term recommended by the common pricing algorithm for the same or similar products or services in the jurisdiction of the state. [Adds B&P 16729, 16756.1]

AB 476 – Metal theft (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Requires junk dealers and recyclers to include additional information in the written record, including the time and amount paid for each sale or purchase of junk made, and the name of the employee handling the transaction. Revises the type of information required in the description of the item or items purchased or sold. Requires the statement indicating ownership or the name of the person from whom the seller obtained the junk from to be signed.

Expands the list of materials and items subject to those provisions to include, among other things, items reasonably recognizable as streetlights and related equipment, and increases the maximum

amount of the criminal fine to \$5,000. [Amends B&P 21606, 21609.1; amends P.C. 496a, 496e]

AB 506 – Pets: sales of dogs, cats, and rabbits

(Effective January 1, 2026): Provides that a contract entered into on or after January 1, 2026, to transfer ownership of a dog, cat, or rabbit that is offered, negotiated, brokered, or otherwise arranged by a person, pet dealer, or business, while the purchaser is located in California, is void as against public policy if the contract includes or requires a non-refundable deposit. Requires these sellers to disclose the original source and medical information of the animal. Authorizes suit against any violators for the recovery of money exchanged pursuant to that contract, injunctive relief, and other remedies the court deems appropriate. Authorizes a purchaser affected by a violation to bring a civil action and would entitle a prevailing plaintiff to reasonable attorney's fees and costs. Also authorizes the Attorney General, a county counsel, a district attorney, a city attorney, or a city prosecutor to enforce these provisions.

If money has been exchanged pursuant to a contract that is void pursuant to these provisions, the seller is required to refund the money to the purchaser within 30 days of receiving notice that the contract is void without expectation that the purchaser return the contract subject. Specifies that these provisions do not limit a contract for the transfer of ownership of an animal by or to a governmental agency or the transfer of ownership of a guide, signal, or service dog. Specifies that these provisions do not apply to a public animal control agency or shelter. [Adds H&S 122225–122231]

AB 519 – Pet broker sales *(Effective January 1, 2026)*:

Prohibits, subject to specified exemptions, a broker from making available for adoption, selling, or offering for sale a dog under one year of age, a cat, or rabbit. Defines a broker as a person or business that sells, arranges, negotiates, or processes, either in person or online, the sale of dogs, cats, or rabbits bred by another for profit and includes facilitating the transfer of those animals for profit. [Adds H&S 122365, 122365.1]

AB 723 – Real estate: digitally altered images: disclosure

(Effective January 1, 2026): Requires a real estate broker or salesperson, or person acting on their behalf, who includes a digitally altered

image in an advertisement or other promotional material for the sale of real property to include a disclosure. If the digitally altered image is posted on an internet website, the original unaltered image is required to be included. [Adds B&P 10140.8]

AB 851 – Real property transactions: counties of Los Angeles and Ventura wildfires: unsolicited offers

(Effective October 10, 2025): New Civil C. 2079.6 prohibits making an unsolicited offer to purchase residential real property in several specified ZIP codes. A district attorney, county counsel, city attorney, or the Attorney General may bring a civil action to enforce this new section.

NOTE: The new version of Civil C. 2079.26 that is effective is in Section 1 of this bill, not Section 1.5. SB 641 was vetoed by the governor and therefore the version of Civil C. 2079.26 in Section 1.5 of the bill is not effective. [Adds Civil C. 2079.26]

AB 1043 – Age verification signals: software applications and online services

(Effective January 1, 2027): Creates the “Digital Age Assurance Act” in new Civil C. 1798.500–1798.505, to be operative on January 1, 2027. It creates a signaling infrastructure that allows developers to rely on a real-time, secure indicator of a user's age bracket for purposes of complying with other California laws that require age verification. A person who violates the Act is subject to a civil penalty of up to \$2,500 per child for each negligent violation and up to \$7,500 per child for each intentional violation. Only the Attorney General can bring the civil action. [Adds Civil C. 1798.500–1798.505]

SB 37 – Attorneys: unlawful solicitations and advertisements

(Effective January 1, 2026): Amends B&P 6153–6158.7, and adds new B&P 6156.5, regarding attorney advertising. [Amends B&P 6153, 6155, 6157, 6157.2, 6158.4, 6158.5, 6158.7; adds B&P 6156.6]

SB 378 – Online marketplaces: illicit cannabis: reporting and liability *(Effective July 1, 2026)*:

Requires an online cannabis marketplace to address in its terms of service whether it permits Californians to view the advertisements and business information of unlicensed sellers on its marketplace and whether the marketplace verifies sellers' licenses. Requires a marketplace that does not verify those licenses to display a clear and conspicuous graphic that warns the consumer that

the marketplace may be displaying, storing, or hosting unlicensed sellers of cannabis or cannabis products.

Requires an online cannabis marketplace to establish a clear and conspicuous mechanism within its internet-based service that allows an individual to report an unlicensed seller of cannabis or cannabis products. Requires the mechanism to provide the individual who submits a report with written confirmation of receipt of the report, periodic updates, and final written determination. Imposes certain penalties and relief depending on the violation of these provisions. Requires an online hemp marketplace to establish a clear and conspicuous mechanism within its internet-based service that allows an individual to report to an advertisement for an intoxicating hemp product. Defines “intoxicating hemp product” to include an inhalable hemp product, as further defined, with a detectable THC concentration. Requires the mechanism to provide the individual who submits a report with written confirmation of receipt of the report, periodic updates, and final written determination. Imposes specified penalties and relief for violations of these provisions

Prohibits an online marketplace from engaging in unlawful paid online advertising related to unlicensed sellers of cannabis or cannabis products or intoxicating hemp products. Imposes joint and several liability on an online marketplace that violates that prohibition and is a substantial factor in an unlawful transaction for damages. Increases the amount that a prevailing plaintiff may recover. Provides various affirmative defenses to an action brought under these provisions and authorizes an online marketplace to seek indemnification against an advertiser that misrepresented to the online marketplace that they were licensed or registered to sell that product. [Adds B&P 22943, 22943.2, 22943.4, 22943.6, 22944; adds Civ. C. 1714.74]

SB 446 – Data breaches: customer notification

(Effective January 1, 2026): Requires that a data breach disclosure be made within 30 calendar days of discovery or notification of the data breach but authorizes an individual or business to delay the disclosure to accommodate the legitimate needs of law enforcement, as specified, or as necessary to determine the scope of the breach and restore the reasonable integrity of the data system. Requires that notification to the Attorney General be made within 15 calendar days of notifying affected

consumers of the security breach. [Amends P.C. 1798.82]

SB 763 – Conspiracy against trade: punishment

(Effective January 1, 2026): Amends B&P 16755 to increase the maximum fine for a violator that is a corporation from \$1 million to \$6 million, for a violation relating to Combinations in Restraint of Trade, and to increase the maximum fine for a violator who is an individual from \$250,000 to \$1 million. [Existing B&P 16755(a)(2) also subjects a violator who is an individual to one, two, or three years in county jail pursuant to P.C. 1170(h).] Also creates new B&P 16755.1 and 16762. New B&P 16755.1 authorizes a civil penalty of up to \$1 million to be recovered in a civil action brought by a district attorney or the Attorney General. [Amends B&P 16755; adds B&P 16755.1, 16762]

SB 766 – California Combating Auto Retail Scams (CARS) Act

(Effective January 1, 2026; operative October 1, 2026): Creates the CARS (Combating Auto Retail Scams) Act, which offers enhanced consumer protections in auto sales and leasing. Makes it a violation of the Act for a dealer to make any misrepresentation regarding material information about specified matters relating to the vehicle sale, including the costs or terms of purchasing, financing, or leasing a vehicle, the availability of vehicles at a total price communicated by the dealer, and the remedy available if a dealer fails to sell or lease a vehicle at the total price, as defined. Makes it a violation of the Act for a dealer to fail to make certain disclosures clear and conspicuous, including specified information relating to the total price and any add-on products or services, and would exempt from that provision a used vehicle sold at an auction. Also makes it a violation of the Act for a dealer, in connection with the sale or financing of a vehicle, to charge for certain items, including an add-on product or service if the vehicle purchaser or lessee would not benefit from the add-on product or service. Prohibits a dealer from selling or leasing specified used vehicles without providing the purchaser or lessee a three-day right to cancel the purchase or lease. [Amend, repeal, and add Civil C. 2982, 2985.8; add Civil C. 1784.20; 1784.21, 1784.22, 1784.23, 1784.28, 1784.30, 1784.31, 1784.40, 1784.41, 1784.42, 1784.43, 1784.44; amend, repeal, and add Rev. & Tax C. 6012.3; amend and repeal Veh. C. 11713.21; amend, repeal, and add Veh. C. 11709.2]

SB 793 – Lighters: standards: prohibition (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Prohibits a person from selling, offering for sale, or distributing a lighter, as defined, or a lighting rod or gas match, that does not comply with specified ASTM International standards. Also prohibits a person from selling, offering for sale, or distributing a lighter that infringes on certain intellectual property rights. [Adds H&S 14945]

COURTS

AB 321 – Reduction of felony wobbler to misdemeanor (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Amends P.C. 17(b)(5) to permit a judge to reduce a felony wobbler to a misdemeanor at any time prior to trial either on the court's own motion or on the motion of a party.. Previously subdivision (b)(5) permitted reduction to a misdemeanor at or before a preliminary hearing or prior to filing an order pursuant to P.C. 872. Adds that if a judge denies reduction to a misdemeanor, a subsequent motion for reduction may only be made upon a showing of changed circumstances, including but not limited to, "newly available facts relevant to the charge or a defendant's personal circumstances, or change in the applicable law." [Amends P.C. 17]

AB 561 – Restraining orders (*Effective January 1, 2027*): Permits restraining order petitions to be filed electronically, at no cost to DVRO petitioners, elder abuse petitioners, or a petitioner who alleges the person to be restrained has inflicted or threatened violence against the petitioner, has stalked the petitioner, or has placed the petitioner in reasonable fear of violence. Permits parties and witnesses to appear remotely. Requires copies of relevant court documents to be provided electronically upon request. Makes other conforming amendments. [Amends Code Civ. Proc. 527.6; amends Fam. C. 6307, 6308, amends Gov't C. 6103.2; amends W&I 15657.03]

AB 1134 – Coerced marriage (*Effective January 1, 2026 and January 1, 2027*): Amends P.C. 265 (forced marriage) to eliminate the crime of compelling a person to be defiled and to specify that the crime of forced marriage shall be applied equally regardless of the age of the victim of a forced marriage at the time of the forced marriage. Commencing January 1, 2027, authorizes a court to grant permission, upon a showing of good cause, for a party to

proceed with a petition for nullity of marriage that is filed beyond the relevant filing period if the party's consent to the marriage was obtained by force. Requires the Judicial Council to modify or develop the forms necessary to implement these provisions. [Amends, repeals, adds Fam. C. 2211; amends P.C. 265]

AB 1178 – Peace officers: confidentiality of records (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Amends P.C. 832.7 to require a court to consider redacting records that are to be disclosed, when the peace officer is currently operating undercover and their duties demand anonymity. [Amends P.C. 832.7]

AB 1363 – Protective orders: Wyland's Law (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Subject to an appropriation by the Legislature, authorizes DOJ to establish, or contract with a vendor to establish, an automated protected person information and notification system to provide a petitioner or a protected person in a protective order case with automated access to information about their case including whether the protective order has been served and whether the restrained person has attempted to purchase a firearm or ammunition. Requires a record demonstrating whether the superior court has fulfilled its transmission obligations or a record demonstrating receipt of information about a protective order to be open to public inspection and copying. [Adds Fam. C. 6380.5]

AB 1376 – Wards: probation (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Adds W&I 602.05, which limits to 12 months from the most recent disposition hearing the period of time a ward may remain on probation, except that a court may extend the probation period after a noticed hearing and upon proof by a preponderance of the evidence that it is in the ward's and the public's best interest. Requires the probation agency to submit a report to the court detailing the basis for any request to extend probation at the noticed hearing. Requires the court to provide the ward and the prosecuting attorney with the opportunity to present relevant evidence at that hearing. Requires the court to hold noticed hearings for the ward not less frequently than every six months for the remainder of the wardship period if the court extends probation. Specifies that these provisions do not apply to specified wards, including a ward who is in placement, is serving a

custodial commitment to a juvenile hall, juvenile home, ranch, camp, forestry camp, or a ward transferred from a secure youth treatment facility to a less restrictive program or to any ward who is discharged from a secure youth treatment facility pursuant to a probation discharge hearing.

Additionally requires, among other things, that conditions of probation for a ward be individually tailored, developmentally appropriate, and reasonable and deletes the mandatory imposition of certain conditions of probation (such as counseling, repairing property, repaying the cost of apprehension to the city or county, community service, curfew, substance abuse testing) for very specific offenses – courts now have discretion to impose those conditions. [Amends W&I 729, 729.1, 729.2, 729.6, 729.8, 729.9, 730, 742.16; adds W&I 602.05]

AB 1524 – Courts: fees (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Prohibits the court from charging a fee that exceeds the cost to the court of providing the service or product. Requires any fee not explicitly authorized by statute or rule to be approved by the Judicial Council. Requires the Judicial Council, by December 1, 2027, to report to the Legislature regarding each fee charged by a superior court in FY2026–27 for which the revenue collected by and distributed to the court as a result of the fee exceeds the court’s cost of providing the service or product. Also requires the Judicial Council, by December 1, 2028, and December 1, 2029, to report certain data to the Legislature regarding the 2027–28 and 2028–29 fiscal years, respectively.

Requires court records maintained in electronic form to be viewable at the court and be available for duplication at a cost, as specified. Allows a member of the public to request to view or duplicate accessible records, on the premises of the court and with the requester’s equipment in a manner that does not make physical contact with the record, without being charged any fees or costs to reproduce the record, unless reproduction would result in, among other things, damage to the record or unauthorized access to the court’s computer systems or networks. Authorizes the court to impose reasonable limits on the use of the requester’s equipment that are necessary to protect the safety of the records or prevent the copying of the records from being an unreasonable burden. [Amends Gov’t C. 68150, 70631]

SB 27 – Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment (CARE) Court Program

(*Effective January 1, 2026*): Authorizes the court in a misdemeanor case after a defendant is found incompetent to stand trial, to consider the defendant’s eligibility for both mental health diversion and the CARE program. Further authorizes the criminal court to refer the defendant to the CARE court if the defendant or counsel for the defendant agrees to the referral and the court has reason to believe the petitioner may be eligible for the CARE program. If the defendant is not accepted into the CARE program or if the CARE court refers the petitioner back to criminal court, as specified, the bill requires the criminal court to conduct a hearing to determine whether the petitioner is eligible for mental health diversion. It authorizes the county behavioral health agency and jail medical providers to share confidential medical records and other relevant information with the court for the purpose of determining likelihood of eligibility for behavioral health services and programs.

Reduces the time frame for the CARE process by allowing the court to determine at the initial appearance and without a hearing that the petition establishes a prima facie case that the defendant meets CARE criteria. Allows the CARE court to call additional progress hearings after 60 days during the pendency of the CARE agreement. Includes persons suffering from bipolar I disorder with psychotic features, except for psychosis related to current intoxication, in the disorder class. Additionally authorizes a court to refer an individual from felony proceedings, as specified, to the CARE program. Includes a nurse practitioner and physician assistant as a licensed behavioral health professional for purposes of individuals authorized to prepare an affidavit supporting a CARE process petition. [Amends P.C. 1370.01; amends W&I 5971, 5972, 5975, 5977, 5977.1, 5977.3, 5978, 5985.]

NOTE: SB 857, the Senate Public Safety Omnibus Bill, also amends P.C. 1370.1, but SB 27’s version prevails.

SB 281 – Pleas: immigration advisement (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Amends P.C. 1016.5(a) to add that the immigration advisement must be provided verbatim. Adds a new subdivision (e) to provide that the failure to provide the advisement verbatim, before January 1, 2026, does not necessarily result

in the vacation of a judgment or the withdrawal of a plea. It reads as follows: “For a plea accepted prior to January 1, 2026, it is not the intent of the Legislature in amending this section that a court’s failure to provide a verbatim advisement as described in subdivision (a) requires the vacation of judgment and withdrawal of the plea or otherwise constitutes grounds for finding a prior conviction invalid pursuant to subdivision (b). However, this section does not inhibit a court in the exercise of its discretion, or as otherwise required by law, from vacating a judgment and permitting a defendant to withdraw a plea as otherwise authorized by law.” [Amends P.C. 1016.5]

[NOTE: Read the various online bill analyses. Requiring judges to tell defendants that their guilty or nolo plea “may” result in deportation is fraught with problems. P.C. 1016.5 uses the word “may,” but many prosecutors have advocated that judges tell defendants they will be deported.]

SB 857 – Senate public safety omnibus

(Effective January 1, 2026): Makes technical and non-controversial changes to various code sections relating generally to criminal justice laws. Of note are the technical changes made to P.C. 1370(a)(1)(B)(iii)(III) that allows the court to consider unsuitability under P.C. 1001.36(c) and any of the conditions in P.C. 1001.36(g). As well as the change to W&I 755 to clarify that the provision that allows a person adjudged to be a ward of the court or placed on probation by the court may reside in a county other than their county of legal residence while being under the supervision of the probation of the county of actual residence applies to wards discharged to probation after being confined in a secure youth treatment facility or after being transferred to a less restrictive program from a secure youth treatment facility. [Amends B&P 7583.7, 7598.2; amends Educ. C. 49428.2, 49428.15, 56366.1; amends Fam. C. 6389; amends Gov’t C. 7286, 8589.11, 8589.15, 12838, 12838.6, 13332.09, 14612, 20403; amends H&S 1180.2, 1180.4, 1250.10, 1522.41, 1562.01, 1563, 127825; amends Labor C. 6401.8; amends P.C. 311.2, 835a, 1171, 1370, 1370.01, 1463.007, 1473.1, 2052, 2056, 2700, 2701, 2716.5, 2800, 2801, 2802, 2804, 2806, 2808, 2810.5, 2811, 2816, 2817, 2818, 4497.50, 4497.52, 4497.54, 4497.56, 6025, 6202, 13511.1, 13515.26, 13515.27, 13515.28, 13515.295, 13515.30, 13519.10, 13652, 13652.1, 18108; adds P.C. 2800.5; amends Pub. Contract C. 6108, 10103.5, 10332, 12217; amends Public Res. C. 4953,

42989.2.1; amends Pub. Utilities C. 99243; amends Unempl. Ins. C. 1095; amends Veh. C. 1808.4, 5072; amends W&I 755, 786, 788, 16001.9, 16527, 16529, 18358.10, 18358.20, 18358.30, 18360.10, 18999.93]

CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN

AB 653 – Child abuse mandated reporters:

talent agents, managers, coaches (Effective January 1, 2026): Adds an individual employed as a talent agent, talent manager, or talent coach, who provides services to a minor, to the list of individuals who are mandated child abuse reporters. Failure by a mandated reporter to report an incident of known or reasonably suspected child abuse or neglect is a misdemeanor punishable by up to six months of confinement in a county jail, by a fine of \$1,000, or by both. [Amends P.C. 11165.7]

AB 741 – Department of Justice: child abuse

reporting (Effective January 1, 2026): Amends P.C. 11105.04 to require, instead of permit, a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) program to submit fingerprint images and related information about employees and volunteers to DOJ. [Amends P.C. 11105.04]

SB 402 – Health care coverage: autism (Effective

January 1, 2026): Amends and adds several Business & Professions Code, Health & Safety Code, and Insurance Code sections relating to health care coverage and autism. Also amends P.C. 11165.7(a)(47), which lists qualified autism service providers, professionals, and paraprofessionals as mandated reporters of child abuse, to change the cross-reference definition of these professions to that in new B&P 4999.200–4999.202 (created by this bill). NOTE: AB 653 (Chapter 379) also amends P.C. 11165.7 to add a new paragraph (50) in subdivision (a) to add talent agents, talent managers, and talent coaches who provide services to a minor, to the list of mandated child abuse reporters. [Amends B&P 22905; adds B&P 4999.200, 4999.201, 4999.202; amends H&S 1367.27, 1374.72, 1374.73; amends Ins. C. 10133.15, 10144.5, 10144.51; amends P.C. 11165.7]

SB 848 – Public safety: school employee misconduct: child abuse prevention (Effective

January 1, 2026): Amends several Education Code sections regarding school safety plans and disseminating guidance to schools about the

reporting of child abuse and neglect. Amends Educ. C. 44010 to expand the list of sex offenses and adds Educ. C. 44010 as a cross-reference to Educ. C. 44830.1 to prohibit a person with a specified sex crime conviction from being hired or retained by a school. [Retains violent felony and serious felony convictions as employment disqualifiers.] Also amends P.C. 11165.7 (child abuse reporting) to expand the list of persons defined as mandated reporters. [NOTE: Two other bills also amend P.C. 11165.7: SB 402 (Chapter 413) and AB 653 (Chapter 379). The amendments made by all three bills are effective even though SB 848 has the highest chapter number (460), because SB 848 incorporates the amendments made by the other two bills. Section 14.3 of SB 848 shows the amendments made to P.C. 11165.7 by all three bills.] [Amends Educ. C. 32280, 32281, 32282, 44010, 44242.5, 44830.1, 44939.5, 51950; amends, repeals, and adds Educ. C. 44691; adds Educ. C. 32100, 44051, 44052; amends P.C. 11165.7]

CRIMINAL PROCEDURE

AB 1036 – Postconviction discovery (Effective January 1, 2026): Authorizes reasonable access, except as specified, to discovery materials for felonies resulting in a sentence of incarceration in the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation [as opposed to a serious or violent felony resulting in a sentence of 15 years or more]. Broadens the definition of “discovery materials” to include, among other things, materials from any prosecutor who tried or worked on the case that tend to negate guilt or mitigate the sentence or offense. Clarifies the definition of “the prosecution” to include the prosecuting agency and counsel for the respondent to a habeas corpus petition. To shield jury selection notes from disclosure, the prosecutor is required to make a foundational proffer describing how information in their file would bear on their case strategy. Requires the court, upon a showing of good cause by the prosecutor, to conduct an in camera review and order necessary redactions. Clarifies that the prosecution’s lack of exercised peremptory challenges during jury selection shall constitute good cause to withhold disclosure of jury selection notes. [Amends P.C. 1054.9]

AB 1071 – Criminal procedure: discrimination (Effective January 1, 2026) and **SB 734 – Criminal procedure: discrimination** (Effective January 1,

2026): Chapter 721 (AB 1071) and Chapter 784 (SB 734) amend P.C. 745, 1473, and 1473.7 as it relates to the Racial Justice Act (RJA). All three provisions now require that if a defendant is represented by an attorney and they file a motion/petition alleging a violation of P.C. 745(a)(1) and (a)(2) relating to the conduct of one or more law enforcement officers, the attorney shall serve a copy of the motion on the law enforcement agency employing those officer(s).

It provides that in any proceeding alleging a violation of P.C. 745(a), a defendant or petitioner may file a motion for relevant discovery under 745(d). That motion for discovery may be made in preparation for the filing of any petition or motion under P.C. 1473 and 1473.7. The amendments to P.C. 745(e)(1) now make it mandatory that the court impose a pre-judgment remedy. The list of pre-judgment remedies under (e)(1) now includes, “any other remedy not prohibited by another law.” The amendments to P.C. 1473 and 1473.7 require that “[a]ny and all definitions and legal thresholds specified in Section 745 are controlling for purposes of claims alleging a violation of subdivision (a) of Section 745” in a habeas petition or motion under 1473.7. So, a prima facie showing under P.C. 1473 or 1473.7 would be as defined under P.C. 745(h). A court may request an informal response from the state in making its prima facie determination on a filed petition. A petition raising a claim under the RJA for the first time based on new discovery or new evidence will not be considered a successive or abusive petition. An unadjudicated petition pending in state court may be amended with a claim under the RJA. The petition must state if the petitioner requests appointment of counsel and the court shall appoint counsel if petitioner cannot afford counsel and either the petition pleads a plausible allegation of a violation under P.C. 745 or the State Public Defender requests appointment. If the court finds a violation as set forth in the habeas petition or motion under P.C. 1473.7, it must impose one or more of the remedies provided for in P.C. 745(e).

SB 734 also added Gov’t C. 3305.6, which provides that a punitive action or denial of promotion by a public agency against a public safety officer shall not be undertaken because of a court finding made under P.C. 745. But a public agency can take punitive action, deny promotion, or take other personnel action against an officer based on the underlying acts or omissions that

formed the basis of the action brought under P.C. 745. This section does not grant immunity for civil or criminal liability for the acts or omissions that formed the basis for the P.C. 745 action.

SB 734 amends P.C. 13510.8 to provide that a peace officer certification shall not be revoked based on a court finding of a violation under P.C. 745. However, revocation can be based on the underlying acts or omissions which formed the basis for the action under P.C. 745.

Additionally, as set forth in Section 1(c) of AB 1071, the uncodified legislative findings and declarations include the following:

The Legislature reasserts the low threshold required to establish a prima facie showing under paragraphs (1) through (4) of subdivision (a) of the RJA. Courts have failed to find a prima facie showing or a violation in cases where individuals involved in the prosecution or investigation have: invoked long-held biases about men of color preying on White women; used dehumanizing and othering language such as “predator,” “monster,” “sociopath,” “terrorist,” “brute,” “thug,” “gangster,” “uncivilized,” “welfare queen,” “superpredator,” or “superhuman”; made racial slurs; elicited or made gratuitous references to gangs, tattoos, nicknames, or neighborhoods; used racially incendiary or coded words such as “ghetto,” “hood,” “baby mama,” or “pimp”; denigrated people who have immigrated to the United States; made gratuitous references to nationality, race, or immigration status; evoked historical and unacknowledged racialized fears that people of color are deceptive, manipulative, crime prone, or a present or future danger; and exaggerated the physical appearance and size of people of color. These examples reflect some of the “many incarnations of racism that have plagued our criminal and juvenile justice systems since their inception.” (People v. Hardin (2024) 15 Cal.5th 834, 906 (dis. opn. of Evans, J.).) Courts also have at times failed to find a prima facie showing or a violation despite evidence of disparate charging and sentencing. The Legislature again emphasizes its rejection of McCleskey v. Kemp (1987) 481 U.S. 279, and its intent that statistical evidence be sufficient for finding a prima facie case and may suffice to show an RJA violation. (See, for example,

Mosby v. Superior Court (2024) 99 Cal.App.5th 106, 133 (conc. opn. of Menetrez, J.).)

AB 1178 – Peace officers: confidentiality of records (Effective January 1, 2026): Amends P.C. 832.7 to require a court to consider redacting records that are to be disclosed, when the peace officer is currently operating undercover and their duties demand anonymity. [Amends P.C. 832.7]

DATA COLLECTION

AB 1239 – Human Trafficking: data (Effective January 1, 2026): Requires the Department of Justice to include in the information made available on the OpenJustice Web portal information concerning arrests for human trafficking and the number of individuals who have been a victim of human trafficking as reported through the California Incident-Based Reporting System. [Adds P.C. 13012.9]

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

AB 561 – Restraining orders (Effective January 1, 2027): Permits restraining order petitions to be filed electronically, at no cost to DVRO petitioners, elder abuse petitioners, or a petitioner who alleges the person to be restrained has inflicted or threatened violence against the petitioner, has stalked the petitioner, or has placed the petitioner in reasonable fear of violence. Permits parties and witnesses to appear remotely. Requires copies of relevant court documents to be provided electronically upon request. Makes other conforming amendments. [Amends Code Civ. Proc. 527.6; amends Fam. C. 6307, 6308, amends Gov’t C. 6103.2; amends W&I 15657.03]

AB 1344 – Restrictions on firearm possession: pilot project (Effective January 1, 2026): Authorizes the counties of Alameda, El Dorado, Santa Clara, and Ventura to establish, until January 1, 2032, a pilot program to additionally authorize a district attorney to request that the court issue a temporary emergency gun violence restraining order, as specified. Requires the district attorney that establishes a pilot program, commencing April 1, 2027, to annually submit specified data to the California Firearm Violence Research Center at UC Davis, and authorizes the center, commencing

July 1, 2027, to conduct an evaluation of the pilot program and annually report that evaluation to the Legislature. Requires the district attorney that establishes a pilot program, commencing April 1, 2027, to make the data described above available upon request to the Department of Justice and the Judicial Council. [Adds and repeals P.C. 18210, 18215, 18220, 18225]

AB 1363 – Protective orders: Wyland’s

Law (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Subject to an appropriation by the Legislature, this bill authorizes the Department of Justice to establish, or contract with a vendor to establish, an automated protected person information and notification system to provide a petitioner or a protected person in a protective order case with automated access to information about their case. Requires a record demonstrating whether the superior court has fulfilled its transmission obligations or a record demonstrating receipt of information about a protective order to be open to public inspection and copying. [Adds Fam. C. 6380.5]

SB 50 – Connected Devices: device protection requests

(*Effective January 1, 2026*) Authorize a survivor (of a crime of, e.g., sexual assault, CSAM, DV, stalking, human trafficking, child abuse/abduction-conviction or court order not required), or a designated representative of a survivor, to submit a device protection request to an account manager (provider or manager of internet or app-based account) seeking to terminate a perpetrator’s access to a connected device or associated user account. Requires an account manager, within two business days of receiving a complete device protection request, to terminate or disable the perpetrator’s access to the connected device or user account, or to inform the survivor, in a clear and conspicuous manner, of any methods to reset the device to factory settings or a similar state that removes all account holders, as provided. Requires the account manager to keep all information provided by survivor confidential then to dispose of that information. The account manager is prohibited from notifying the perpetrator of the access termination.

The findings and declarations state:

(a) According to the National Domestic Violence Hotline, almost one-half of all women and men in the United States have experienced psychological aggression by an intimate partner in their lifetime.

(b) According to the National Network to End Domestic Violence, 97 percent of domestic violence programs report that abusers misuse technology to stalk, harass, and control victims.

(c) An increase in the use of technology has become a concerning tool in cases of domestic violence and harassment. Perpetrators leverage smartphone applications to remotely control everyday objects to exercise control over, monitor, and abuse their victims.

(d) Domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, sexual assault, human trafficking, and related crimes are life-threatening issues and have lasting and harmful effects on individuals, families, and entire communities.

(e) Survivors often lack meaningful support and options when establishing independence from an abuser, including barriers such as financial insecurity and limited access to reliable communications tools to maintain essential connections with family, social safety networks, employers, and support services.

(f) Laws related to the use of technology can play a public interest role in the promotion of safety, life, and property with respect to these types of violence and abuse. Independent access to devices can assist survivors in establishing security and autonomy.

(g) Safeguards within tech-based services can serve a role in preventing abuse and narrowing the digital divide experienced by survivors of abuse.

[Adds B&P 22948.30, 22948.31, 22948.32, 22948.33, 22948.34, 22948.35, 22948.36, 22948.37; amends Fam. C. 6320]

DRUG PARAPHERNALIA

AB 309 – Hypodermic needles and syringes

(Effective January 1, 2026): Removes the sunset date and continues the authorization in B&P 4145.5 for physicians and pharmacists to furnish hypodermic needles and syringes to an adult without a prescription or permit. [Amends B&P 4145.5; amends H&S 11364]

ELDER ABUSE/DEPENDENT ADULT ABUSE

AB 561 – Restraining orders (Effective January 1, 2027): Permits restraining order petitions to be filed electronically, at no cost to DVRO petitioners, elder abuse petitioners, or a petitioner who alleges the person to be restrained has inflicted or threatened violence against the petitioner, has stalked the petitioner, or has placed the petitioner in reasonable fear of violence. Permits parties and witnesses to appear remotely. Requires copies of relevant court documents to be provided electronically upon request. Makes other conforming amendments. [Amends Code Civ. Proc. 527.6; amends Fam. C. 6307, 6308, amends Gov't C. 6103.2; amends W&I 15657.03]

ELECTIONS

SB 398 – Election crimes; payment based on voting or voter registration (Effective January 1, 2026): Creates a new wobblers misdemeanor/felony crime for a person to knowingly or willfully pay or offer to pay money or other valuable consideration to another person with the intent to induce the person to vote or to register to vote, or where the payment is contingent upon whether the person voted or the person's voter registration status. [Adds Elections C. 18107.5]

SB 851 – Elections (Effective October 1, 2025): Amends Elections C. 15372 to provide that if an elections official fails to prepare a certified statement of the results of the election, would require the Secretary of State to call the violation to the attention of the district attorney of the county or to the Attorney General and authorize the Secretary of State to assist the county elections official in discharging their duties, consistent with those provisions. It amends Elections C. 18545 (the felony/misdemeanor crime of hiring/arranging for a peace officer or security personnel to be stationed near a polling place or elections office without written authorization of the elections official) to expand it to "law enforcement" officers, so as to include federal law enforcement and to require the written authorization of an elections official or a federal court order. It also amends Elections C. 18568 to make it a felony to display an envelope (in addition to a container under existing law) for the purpose of collecting ballots to deceive a voter into casting a ballot in an unofficial ballot box. [Amends Elections C. 15371, 15372, 15375, 15400, 18545, 18568, 19006, 19101, 19212, 19215, 19284, 19290; adds Elections C. 21]

END OF LIFE OPTION ACT

SB 403 – End of Life Option Act: sunset (Effective January 1, 2026): Repeals the January 1, 2031, expiration date of the End of Life Option Act, therefore extending the Act indefinitely. [Repeals H&S 443.15]

FEES

AB 1524 – Courts: fees (Effective January 1, 2026):

Prohibits the court from charging a fee that exceeds the cost to the court of providing the service or product. Requires any fee not explicitly authorized by statute or rule to be approved by the Judicial Council. Requires the Judicial Council, by December 1, 2027, to report to the Legislature regarding each fee charged by a superior court in FY2026–27 for which the revenue collected by and distributed to the court as a result of the fee exceeds the court's cost of providing the service or product. Also requires the Judicial Council, by December 1, 2028, and December 1, 2029, to report certain data to the Legislature regarding the 2027–28 and 2028–29 fiscal years, respectively.

Requires court records maintained in electronic form to be viewable at the court and be available for duplication at a cost, as specified. Allows a member of the public to request to view or duplicate accessible records, on the premises of the court and with the requester's equipment in a manner that does not make physical contact with the record, without being charged any fees or costs to reproduce the record, unless reproduction would result in, among other things, damage to the record or unauthorized access to the court's computer systems or networks. Authorizes the court to impose reasonable limits on the use of the requester's equipment that are necessary to protect the safety of the records or prevent the copying of the records from being an unreasonable burden. [Amends Gov't C. 68150, 70631]

FIREARMS AND WEAPONS

AB 383 – Firearms: prohibition, minors (Effective January 1, 2026): Amends P.C. 29810 to make the procedures to relinquish firearms or ammunition applicable to a juvenile who is prohibited from owning, possessing, or having under their custody or control a firearm until they are 30 years of age. Amends P.C. 29615 to further exclude "hunting education" from prohibition in P.C. 29610. Amends P.C. 1524 to allow a search warrant to be issued when the property or things to be seized include a firearm that is owned by, or in the possession of, or in the custody or control of, a juvenile who is subject to the prohibition on owning or possessing a firearm until they are 30 years of age when the

court has made a finding that the person has failed to relinquish the firearm as required by law. The bill's provisions are severable. [Amends P.C. 1524, 29615, 29810]

AB 1078 – Firearms (Effective January 1, 2026):

Makes a variety of amendments to P.C. 171.7, most notably by excluding lawful transportation of an unloaded firearm in a locked box from crime of possession of firearm in a public transit facility. Amends P.C. 26150 and 26155 to establish criteria for non-California residents' applications for concealed carry licenses or license renewals. Amends P.C. 26195 to prohibit issuance of a license, and clarifies that a license can be revoked, if the applicant knowingly provides inaccurate or incomplete information in connection with the application or fails to inform the licensing authority of any restraining orders, arrests, charges, or convictions as specified. Further amends P.C. 26195 to require DOJ to notify the licensing authority within 15 days of a DOJ determination that a licensee is a prohibited person. Amends P.C. 26202 to expand and clarify reasons to deem an applicant disqualified.

Repeals (effective *April 1, 2026*) existing P.C. 27535, and adds new P.C. 27535 to prohibit application for purchase of more than three firearms cumulatively within any 30 day period – with numerous exceptions.

Repeals (effective *April 1, 2026*) existing P.C. 27540, and adds new P.C. 27540 to prohibit delivery to specified persons; of any firearm unless unloaded, securely wrapped or in a locked container; of any firearm without sufficient proof of ID and age; or of any firearm without a safety certificate.

Amends P.C. 29800 to exclude out of state convictions for nonviolent felonies under certain conditions.

[Amends P.C. 171.7, 26150, 26155, 26162, 26185, 26190, 26195, 26202, 26205, 26206, 26225, 26230, 29800; amends, repeals, and adds P.C. 26835, 27535, 27540]

AB 1127 – Firearms: converter pistols (Effective January 1, 2026): Prohibits a licensed firearms dealer to sell, offer for sale, exchange, give, transfer, or deliver any semiautomatic machinegun-convertible pistol, except as specified.

Amends Civil C. 3273.5 by (1) amending definition of "firearm accessory" to include

attachments or devices that increase rate of fire or decrease time to reload; that turn a firearm into an assault weapon; and “any other device, tool, kit, part, or parts set that is clearly designed and intended for use in manufacturing firearms;” (2) amending definition of “firearm manufacturing machine” to include machines reasonable designed or intended to be used to manufacture or produce firearms, firearm components, or firearm accessories. [Previously only applied to machines to produce firearms]; and (3) amending definition of “reasonable controls” to include controls designed to “[p]revent the installation and use of a pistol converter ... with a firearm.”

Amends definition of machinegun in P.C. 16880 to include any machinegun-convertible pistol equipped with a pistol converter. Adds P.C. 16885 to define “machinegun-convertible pistol” as any semiautomatic pistol with a cruciform trigger bar that can be readily converted by hand or with common household tools into a machinegun by the installation or attachment of a pistol converter, as specified, and adds P.C. 17015 to define “pistol converter” as any device or instrument that, when installed in or attached to the rear of the slide of a semiautomatic pistol, replaces the backplate and interferes with the trigger mechanism and thereby enables the pistol to shoot automatically more than one shot by a single function of the trigger.

Adds P.C. 27595 (*effective July 1, 2026*) to make a violation of these provisions punishable by a fine, a second violation punishable by a fine that may result in a suspension or revocation of the dealer’s license and removal from certain centralized lists maintained by DOJ, and a third violation punishable as a misdemeanor that shall result in the revocation of the dealer’s license and removal from certain centralized lists. [Amends Civ. C. 3272.50; amends P.C. 16880; adds P.C. 16885, 17015, 25595, 27595, 32103]

AB 1263 – Firearms: Ghost guns (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Amends P.C. 29805 to add a new subdivision (h) to provide that a person convicted on or after January 1, 2026, of a specified firearms violation (P.C. 24610, 27520, 29185, 29186, 30605, 30610, 32900, 33215, 33600) and within 10 years of the conviction owns, purchases, receives, or possesses a firearm is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by up to one year in jail and/or by a fine of up to \$1,000.

Adds P.C. 29186 as a new misdemeanor crime of knowingly or willfully causing another person to engage in the unlawful manufacture of firearms, or to knowingly or willfully aid, abet, promote, or facilitate the unlawful manufacture of firearms. [NOTE: Because P.C. 29186 simply says that “[a] violation of this section is a misdemeanor,” existing P.C. 19 controls. P.C. 19 provides that except in cases where a different punishment is prescribed, every offense declared to be a misdemeanor is punishable by up to six months in jail and/or by a fine of up to \$1,000.]

Amends Civil C. 3273.5 by (1) amending definition of “firearm accessory” to include attachments or devices that increase rate of fire or decrease time to reload; that turn a firearm into an assault weapon; and “any other device, tool, kit, part, or parts set that is clearly designed and intended for use in manufacturing firearms;” (2) amending definition of “firearm manufacturing machine” to include machines reasonable designed or intended to be used to manufacture or produce firearms, firearm components, or firearm accessories. [Previously only applied to machines to produce firearms]; and (3) amending definition of “reasonable controls” to include controls designed to “[p]revent the installation and use of a pistol converter ... with a firearm.”

Amends Civil C. 3273.51 to require licensed dealers to take the following steps prior to completing the sale or delivery of a firearm accessory, a firearm manufacturing machine, or an unattached barrel: (1) provide clear and conspicuous notice that it is a crime in California to manufacture more than three firearms per year, to manufacture a firearm using a 3-d printer or CNC milling machine, manufacture a firearm for the purpose of sale or transfer to anyone not licensed to manufacture firearms, or with the intent to complete the sale or transfer without a background check, to allow a prohibited person to manufacture a firearm, or to manufacture assault weapons or unsafe handguns; (2) receive acknowledgment that the purchaser received and understands the notice; verify the purchaser is at least 18 years of age.

Further amends Civil C. 3273.51 regarding shipment and delivery of firearm barrels, accessories, or manufacturing machines to require the dealer to: (1) conspicuously label the package to require ID, a signature and proof of age (at least 18); (2) ensure shipping address matches purchaser’s identification.

Amends definition of “digital firearm manufacturing code: in Civil Code 3273.60 to include “computer aided manufacturing files” regarding instructions to manufacture firearms or precursor parts, large capacity magazines or conversion kits, machineguns, multiburst trigger activators, silencers, firearm accessories, and firearm barrels.

Amends Civil C. 3273.61 regarding civil actions to extend strict liability, provide for private plaintiffs to seek injunctive relief, and create a rebuttable presumption.

Adds Civil C. 3273.625 to create a new cause of action for “knowingly, willfully, or recklessly” aiding, abetting, promoting, facilitating, or causing another to engage in the unlawful manufacture of firearms. Attorney General, county counsel, or city attorneys may bring suit for up to \$25,000 per violation.

The Civil Code sections amended and created are in the Firearm Industry Responsibility Act (Civil C. 3273.50–3273.55) and in Firearm Manufacturing (Title 21) (Civil C. 3273.60–3273.62.) [Amends Civil C. 3273.50, 3273.51, 3273.60, 3273.61; adds Civil. C. 3273.625; amends P.C. 29805; adds P.C. 29186]

AB 1344 – Restrictions on firearm possession: pilot project (Effective January 1, 2026): Authorizes the counties of Alameda, El Dorado, Santa Clara, and Ventura to establish, until January 1, 2032, a pilot program to additionally authorize the district attorneys in those counties to request that the court issue a temporary emergency gun violence restraining order, as specified. Requires the district attorney that establishes a pilot program, commencing April 1, 2027, to annually submit specified data to the California Firearm Violence Research Center at UC Davis, and authorizes the center, commencing July 1, 2027, to conduct an evaluation of the pilot program and annually report that evaluation to the Legislature. Requires the district attorney that establishes a pilot program, commencing April 1, 2027, to make the data described above available upon request to DOJ and the Judicial Council. [Adds and repeals P.C. 18210, 18215, 18220, 18225]

SB 704 – Firearms: firearm barrels (Effective January 1, 2026): Adds P.C. 16525 to define “firearm barrel,” and adds P.C. 33700 which creates new misdemeanor and felony crimes related to the sale,

transfer, purchase, or acquisition of a firearm barrel. [Amends P.C. 28235; adds P.C. 16525, 33700]

FRAUD

SB 255 – County recorders: notification (Effective January 1, 2026): Repeals the current version of Gov’t C. 27297.7 (authorizing counties to operate a county recorder notification program) and adds a new Gov’t C. 27297.7 to require, by January 1, 2027, every county to establish a recorder notification program to minimize title fraud. [Repeal and add Gov’t C. 27297.7]

GAMBLING

AB 831 – Gambling: operation of a contest or sweepstakes (Effective January 1, 2026): Creates the misdemeanor crime of operating, conducting, or offering an online sweepstakes. Punishable by up to one year in jail and / or by a fine of between \$1,000 and \$25,000. According to a bill analysis, this bill prohibits “an online sweepstakes game (game, contest, or promotion), as described, that simulates or mimics casino-style gambling or a gambling-themed games, as defined, by utilizing a dual-currency system of payment that allows a person to play or participate with direct or indirect consideration, and for which the person playing or participating may become eligible for a prize, award, cash, or cash equivalents or a chance to win a prize, award, cash, or cash equivalents.” [Amends B&P 17539.1; adds P.C. 3370]

SB 451 – Gambling (Effective January 1, 2026): Clarifies that the Department of Justice’s authority to investigate suspected criminal violations of prohibited gambling activities enumerated in the Penal Code includes suspected violations that occur outside of a licensed gambling establishment, irrespective of whether the suspected violation involves licensees. Authorizes an eligible organization to conduct a major league sports raffle at a championship game, if held at the designated venue where an affiliated sports team plays their home games. [Amends B&P 19826, 19827; amends P.C. 320.6]

HUMAN TRAFFICKING/PROSTITUTION

AB 379 – Crimes: prostitution (Effective January 1, 2026): Increases the civil penalty for a business that fails to post a required notice about human trafficking and adds that the Attorney General may enforce this section. Increases the civil penalties for a hotel whose supervisory employee with knowledge of sex trafficking activity fails to act, or whose employee participates in such activity. Adds the Attorney General to those entities (city and county attorneys) who may enforce this section.

Amends P.C. 647(l) to make the solicitation of a minor who is more than three years younger than the defendant a felony-misdemeanor crime (a “wobbler”). A second violation is a non-alternative felony. Retains as a wobbler (and as a non-alternative felony for a second conviction) the solicitation of a minor under age 16, and the solicitation of a minor under age 18 who was the victim of human trafficking. Requires that a defendant granted probation be ordered to complete an education program about human trafficking. Requires a convicted defendant to pay a fine of \$1,000 to the Survivors Support Fund (see new P.C. 647.5, below) if compensation, money, or anything of value was paid.

Adds new P.C. 647.5 to require the California Victim Compensation Board to establish a grant program for community-based organizations that provide services to victims of sex trafficking and exploitation. Establishes the Survivor Support Fund in the State Treasury.

Adds new P.C. 653.25, which is the new infraction crime of loitering in a public place with the intent to purchase commercial sex. Punishable by a \$1,000 fine. [NOTE: This new crime is not labeled as an infraction or as a misdemeanor. It appears to be an infraction crime because it is punishable by a fine and because it does not specify any jail time or that it is a misdemeanor; however, subdivision (b) says that the fine is “in addition to any other punishment.”]

New P.C. 13849 establishes in the Office of Emergency Services a program of financial and technical assistance for district attorney offices for the prosecution of human trafficking crimes, defined as P.C. 236.1 crimes and P.C. 647(l) crimes. Requires vertical prosecution. Provides that up to 11 district attorney offices are to be awarded funds. [Amends Civ. C. 52.6 and 52.65; amends P.C. 647; adds P.C. 647.5, 653.25, 13849]

AB 1239 – Human Trafficking: data (Effective January 1, 2026): Requires the Department of Justice to include in the information made available on the OpenJustice Web portal information concerning arrests for human trafficking and the number of individuals who have been a victim of human trafficking as reported through the California Incident-Based Reporting System. [Adds P.C. 13012.9]

SB 50 – Connected Devices: device protection requests (Effective January 1, 2026) Authorize a survivor (of a crime of, e.g., sexual assault, CSAM, DV, stalking, human trafficking, child abuse/abduction-conviction or court order not required), or a designated representative of a survivor, to submit a device protection request to an account manager (provider or manager of internet or app-based account) seeking to terminate a perpetrator’s access to a connected device or associated user account. Requires an account manager, within two business days of receiving a complete device protection request, to terminate or disable the perpetrator’s access to the connected device or user account, or to inform the survivor, in a clear and conspicuous manner, of any methods to reset the device to factory settings or a similar state that removes all account holders, as provided. Requires the account manager to keep all information provided by survivor confidential then to dispose of that information. The account manager is prohibited from notifying the perpetrator of the access termination.

The findings and declarations state:

(a) According to the National Domestic Violence Hotline, almost one-half of all women and men in the United States have experienced psychological aggression by an intimate partner in their lifetime.

(b) According to the National Network to End Domestic Violence, 97 percent of domestic violence programs report that abusers misuse technology to stalk, harass, and control victims.

(c) An increase in the use of technology has become a concerning tool in cases of domestic violence and harassment. Perpetrators leverage smartphone applications to remotely control everyday objects to exercise control over, monitor, and abuse their victims.

(d) Domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, sexual assault, human trafficking, and related crimes are life-threatening issues and have lasting and harmful effects on individuals, families, and entire communities.

(e) Survivors often lack meaningful support and options when establishing independence from an abuser, including barriers such as financial insecurity and limited access to reliable communications tools to maintain essential connections with family, social safety networks, employers, and support services.

(f) Laws related to the use of technology can play a public interest role in the promotion of safety, life, and property with respect to these types of violence and abuse. Independent access to devices can assist survivors in establishing security and autonomy.

(g) Safeguards within tech-based services can serve a role in preventing abuse and narrowing the digital divide experienced by survivors of abuse.

[Adds B&P 22948.30, 22948.31, 22948.32, 22948.33, 22948.34, 22948.35, 22948.36, 22948.37; amends Fam. C. 6320]

IMMIGRATION

SB 281 – Pleas: immigration advisement (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Amends P.C. 1016.5(a) to add that the immigration advisement must be provided **verbatim**. Adds a new subdivision (e) to provide that the failure to provide the advisement verbatim, before January 1, 2026, does not necessarily result in the vacation of a judgment or the withdrawal of a plea. It reads as follows: “For a plea accepted prior to January 1, 2026, it is not the intent of the Legislature in amending this section that a court’s failure to provide a verbatim advisement as described in subdivision (a) requires the vacation of judgment and withdrawal of the plea or otherwise constitutes grounds for finding a prior conviction invalid pursuant to subdivision (b). However, this section does not inhibit a court in the exercise of its discretion, or as otherwise required by law, from vacating a judgment and permitting a defendant to withdraw a plea as otherwise authorized by law.” [Amends P.C. 1016.5]

[NOTE: Read the various online bill analyses. Requiring judges to tell defendants that their guilty or nolo plea “may” result in deportation is fraught with problems. P.C. 1016.5 uses the word “may,” but many prosecutors have advocated that judges tell defendants they **will** be deported.]

SB 580 – Attorney General: immigration

enforcement policies (*Effective January 1, 2026*):

Requires the Attorney General, by July 1, 2026, and in consultation with stakeholders, to publish model policies for state and local agencies relating to interaction with immigration authorities. [Adds Gov’t C. 12532.5]

JAILS/PRISONS/DETENTION FACILITIES

AB 247 – Incarcerated individual hand crew

members: wages (*Effective October 13, 2025*):

Requires an incarcerated individual hand crew member, in addition to receiving credits, and a ward or youth hand crew member placed at the Pine Grove Youth Conservation Camp, to be paid an hourly wage equal to \$7.25 while assigned to an active fire incident, and requires that wage rate to be reviewed annually. Additionally requires CDCR and counties to maintain regulations regarding an administrative adjudication and remedy process for any disputes over sums owned pursuant to these provisions. [Amends P.C. 4019.2; adds P.C. 2714; adds W&I 1760.46]

AB 248 – County jails: wages (*Effective January*

1, 2026): Authorizes the board of supervisors to determine the sum of money to be credited prisoners confined in or committed to county jail. [Amends P.C. 4919.30]

AB 1108 – Coroners (*Effective January 1, 2026*):

Creates new Gov’t Code 27491.56, which is called the Forensic Accountability, Custodial Transparency, and Safety (FACTS) Act of 2025. This new section provides that where the offices of the sheriff and coroner are combined, the sheriff-coroner shall not determine the circumstances and cause of death for an in-custody death but instead must contract with a county that has an independent coroner or contract with a private third-party medical examination provider. Uncodified Section Three of this bill finds that 48 counties have consolidated their offices of sheriff

and coroner, which creates a potential conflict of interest when investigating in-custody deaths.

Requires the county board of supervisors to annually enter into a service agreement or service agreements with those medical examiners, independent coroner offices, or private third-party medical examination providers, or with any combination thereof. Prohibits a private third-party medical examination provider that has entered into a service agreement from, during the term of the service agreement, being contracted by the county or the sheriff-coroner of that county to provide medical examination for any cases that do not involve in-custody deaths.

Defines “in-custody death” to include, among other things, the death of a person who is detained, under arrest, or is in the process of being detained or arrested, is en route to be incarcerated, or is incarcerated at a municipal or county jail or state prison, or who is en route to be detained, or is detained, at a federal correctional facility or immigration detention facility, as provided. This bill excepts an independent medical examination performed pursuant to those provisions from the provisions described above that require, in the case of a forensic autopsy, the manner of death to be determined by the coroner or medical examiner of a county.

[The bill notes that “The Legislature finds and declares that out of California’s 58 counties, 48 counties have consolidated their offices of the sheriff and coroner. This means that most counties in California have a potential for a conflict of interest when investigating in-custody deaths. The Legislature finds and declares that the need to preserve the integrity and independence of medical examinations for in-custody deaths is a matter of statewide concern. Therefore, this act shall apply to all counties, including charter counties.”] [Amends Gov’t C. 27522; adds Gov’t C. 27491.56]

SB 551 – Corrections and rehabilitation: state policy (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Amends P.C. 1170(a)(1) to add that “the carceral system should not, except as incidental to justifiable separation or the maintenance of discipline, aggravate the suffering inherent while experiencing imprisonment,” and, a period of imprisonment should be used to ensure “the promotion of personal growth for all residents” Amends P.C. 5000 to encourage CDCR to allow all incarcerated persons access to programming. Adds

P.C. 5000.5 to declare “the purpose of incarceration is rehabilitation accomplished only if the period of imprisonment is used to maximize personal growth for all residents” P.C. 5000.5 also directs CDCR to operate under the principle of “normalization” which means that “life inside prison should be as close to life outside of prison as possible...,” *NOTE*: This bill got nine “no” votes in the Senate and 20 “no” votes in the Assembly. [Amends P.C. 1170, 5000; adds P.C. 5000.6]

JURY/JURORS

AB 223 – Jury selection: acknowledgment and agreement (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Revises the acknowledgment and agreements obtained from the jury panel prior to the examination of prospective trial jurors assigned for voir dire and after the completion of selection of trial jurors. [Amends Code Civ. Proc. 232]

SB 645 – Juries: peremptory challenges (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Existing law prohibits using a peremptory challenge to remove prospective jurors based on race, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, national origin, or religious affiliation or perceived membership in any of these groups. This bill amends Code Civ. Proc. 231.7 to make that prohibition applicable to specified civil cases such as those involving a civil rights violation (actions alleging a violation against protected classes enumerated in subdivision (a), allegations of a violation of the Tom Bane Civil Rights Act, allegations of a violation of 42 U.S.C. 1983, Title VI of the federal Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d, et seq.), the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. 10301 et seq.), or the federal Fair Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 3601 et seq.), actions alleging a violation of the California Fair Employment and Housing Act (Part 2.8 (commencing with section 12900) of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code), including, but not limited to, actions alleging discrimination, harassment, or retaliation), actions for the civil commitment of a person, including a person who is determined to be a sexually violent predator pursuant to Article 4 (commencing with Section 6600) of Chapter 2 of Part 2 of Division 6 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, and civil cases for damages arising from a hate crime. Previously, this section was scheduled to apply to *all* civil cases starting January 1, 2026. [Amends and repeals Code Civ. Proc. 231.7]

JUVENILES

AB 383 – Firearms: prohibition, minors (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Amends P.C. 29810 to make the procedures to relinquish firearms or ammunition applicable to a juvenile who is prohibited from owning, possessing, or having under their custody or control a firearm until they are 30 years of age. Amends P.C. 29615 to further exclude “hunting education” from prohibition in P.C. 29610. Amends P.C. 1524 to allow a search warrant to be issued when the property or things to be seized include a firearm that is owned by, or in the possession of, or in the custody or control of, a juvenile who is subject to the prohibition on owning or possessing a firearm until they are 30 years of age when the court has made a finding that the person has failed to relinquish the firearm as required by law. The bill’s provisions are severable. [Amends P.C. 1524, 29615, 29810]

AB 461 – Truancy (*Effective January 1, 2026*): More Help Not Less Act of 2025. Repeals P.C. 270.1, the misdemeanor crime of a parent of a chronically truant child failing to reasonably supervise and encourage school attendance. [Repeals P.C. 270.1]

AB 952 – Youth Offender Program Camp Pilot Program (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Creates new P.C. 2786.5 to declare the Legislature’s intent to make permanent the “Youth Offender Program Camp Pilot Program” within CDCR. According to P.C. 2786.5(a)(1)(A), this pilot program was launched in August 2023 to allow inmates between 18 and 25 years of age who have a Level III classification score or a Violent Administrative Determinant, the ability to participate in the conservation camp program on a case-by-case basis. [Adds P.C. 2786.5]

AB 1376 – Wards: probation (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Adds W&I 602.05, which limits to 12 months from the most recent disposition hearing the period of time a ward may remain on probation, except that a court may extend the probation period after a noticed hearing and upon proof by a preponderance of the evidence that it is in the ward’s and the public’s best interest. Requires the probation agency to submit a report to the court detailing the basis for any request to extend probation at the noticed hearing. Requires the court to provide the ward and the prosecutor with

the opportunity to present relevant evidence at that hearing. Requires the court to hold noticed hearings for the ward not less frequently than every six months for the remainder of the wardship period if the court extends probation. Specifies that all of these provisions do not apply to specified wards, including a ward who is in placement, is serving a custodial commitment to a juvenile hall, juvenile home, ranch, camp, forestry camp, or a ward transferred from a secure youth treatment facility to a less restrictive program or to any ward who is discharged from a secure youth treatment facility pursuant to a probation discharge hearing. Additionally requires, among other things, that conditions of probation for a ward be individually tailored, developmentally appropriate, and reasonable and deletes the mandatory imposition of certain conditions of probation (such as counseling, repairing property, repaying the cost of apprehension to the city or county, community service, curfew, substance abuse testing) for very specific offenses – courts now have discretion to impose those conditions. [Amends W&I 729, 729.1, 729.2, 729.6, 729.8, 729.9, 730, 742.16; adds W&I 602.05]

SB 413 – Juveniles: case file inspection (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Specifies that the county counsel, city attorney, or any other attorney representing the county child welfare agency in dependency proceedings, and the county counsel or city attorney representing the child welfare agency or probation department in connection with the administration or review of child welfare or probation services, as specified, may access juvenile case files. Also authorizes an attorney representing a party in a civil proceeding, as defined, filed by, or on behalf of, the person who is the subject of the juvenile case file in which the defendant is either the child welfare agency, probation department, or an employee of those entities to inspect and receive copies of a juvenile case file for use in the civil proceeding, as specified. Additionally authorizes an attorney representing a person who is or was the subject of juvenile proceedings under specified provisions to access juvenile case files. [Amends W&I 827]

SB 459 – Peace officers: confidential communications: exceptions: group peer support services (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Expands the definition of “confidential communication” for purposes of the Law Enforcement Peer Support

(LEPS) and Crisis Referral Program to include information transmitted between law enforcement personnel recipients of group peer support services while a peer support team member or mental health professional provides group peer support services to those recipients. Expands the right of law enforcement personnel to refuse to disclose certain communications made while participating in peer support programs.

Clarifies that, notwithstanding the protection provided by LEPS, amends Gov't C. 8669.4 to add juvenile delinquency proceedings to the list of circumstances (e.g., criminal cases; disclosure is necessary to prevent a death, substantial bodily harm, or the commission of a crime) when a confidential communication made by a law enforcement officer in a peer support situation may be disclosed. [Amends Gov't C. 8669.3, 8669.4]

SB 857 – Senate public safety omnibus

(Effective January 1, 2026): Makes technical and non-controversial changes to various code sections relating generally to criminal justice laws.

Of note are the technical changes made to P.C. 1370(a)(1)(B)(iii)(III) that allows the court to consider unsuitability under P.C. 1001.36(c) and any of the conditions in 1001.36(g). Also note that the change to W&I 755 to clarify that the provision that allows a person adjudged to be a ward of the court or placed on probation by the court may reside in a county other than their county of legal residence while being under the supervision of the probation of the county of actual residence applies to wards discharged to probation after being confined in a secure youth treatment facility or after being transferred to a less restrictive program from a secure youth treatment facility. [Amends B&P 7583.7, 7598.2; amends Educ. C. 49428.2, 49428.15, 56366.1; amends Fam. C. 6389; amends Gov't C. 7286, 8589.11, 8589.15, 12838, 12838.6, 13332.09, 14612, 20403; amends H&S 1180.2, 1180.4, 1250.10, 1522.41, 1562.01, 1563, 127825; amends Labor C. 6401.8; amends P.C. 311.2, 835a, 1171, 1370, 1370.01, 1463.007, 1473.1, 2052, 2056, 2700, 2701, 2716.5, 2800, 2801, 2802, 2804, 2806, 2808, 2810.5, 2811, 2816, 2817, 2818, 4497.50, 4497.52, 4497.54, 4497.56, 6025, 6202, 13511.1, 13515.26, 13515.27, 13515.28, 13515.295, 13515.30, 13519.10, 13652, 13652.1, 18108; adds P.C. 2800.5; amends Pub. Contract C. 6108, 10103.5, 10332, 12217; amends Public Res. C. 4953, 42989.2.1; amends Pub. Utilities C. 99243; amends Unempl. Ins. C. 1095; amends Veh. C. 1808.4, 5072;

amends W&I 755, 786, 788, 16001.9, 16527, 16529, 18358.10, 18358.20, 18358.30, 18360.10, 18999.93]

LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES & OFFICERS

AB 451 – Restraining orders (Effective January 1, 2026): Adds P.C. 13667 to require each municipal police department and county sheriff's department, California Highway Patrol, and the University of California and California State University Police Departments to, on or before January 1, 2027, develop, adopt, and implement written policies and standards to promote safe, consistent, and effective service, implementation, and enforcement of court protection and restraining orders that include firearm access restrictions. Requires these policies and standards to, among other things, provide a standard agency process for law enforcement to serve an order against a restrained person in a timely manner and ensure the agency consistently complies with specified requirements under California law governing service of protection and restraining orders. [Adds P.C. 13667]

AB 572 – Criminal procedure: interrogations

(Effective January 1, 2026): Requires every prosecutorial agency and law enforcement agency, by January 1, 2027, to maintain a policy requiring a peace officer or prosecuting attorney who initiates a formal interview to gather evidence related to a law enforcement incident resulting in a person's death or serious bodily injury by a peace officer to adhere to specified requirements, such as not using threats or deception; not fabricating evidence; and not making misleading statements. Sets forth requirements for interviewing the family members of the dead or injured person, such as telling the interviewee whether the person is dead or injured, informing the interviewee that there may or may not be an assessment of the conduct of the dead/injured person; and informing the interviewee that they may have a support person present. [Adds Gov't C. 7287]

AB 847 – Peace officers: confidentiality of records

(Effective January 1, 2026): Grants civilian law enforcement oversight boards or commissions access to the confidential personnel records of peace officers and custodial officers and records maintained by their employing agencies during investigations or related proceedings concerning the conduct of those officers. Requires those

oversight boards to maintain the confidentiality of those records and authorizes them to conduct closed sessions to review confidential records. Additionally authorizes a county inspector general to access those personnel records. [Amends Gov't C. 25303.7; amends P.C. 832.7]

AB 875 – Vehicle removal (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Creates new Veh. C. 22651.08 to authorize a peace officer to remove a class 3 electric bicycle being operated in violation of V.C. 21213(a), and to remove a vehicle with fewer than four wheels that does not meet the definition of an electric bicycle under specified circumstances. [Adds Veh. C. 22651.08]

AB 1108 – County officers: coroners: in-custody deaths (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Creates new Gov't Code 27491.56, which is called the Forensic Accountability, Custodial Transparency, and Safety (FACTS) Act of 2025. This new section provides that where the offices of the sheriff and coroner are combined, the sheriff-coroner shall not determine the circumstances and cause of death for an in-custody death but instead must contract with a county that has an independent coroner or contract with a private third-party medical examination provider. Uncodified Section Three of this bill finds that 48 counties have consolidated their offices of sheriff and coroner, which creates a potential conflict of interest when investigating in-custody deaths. [Amends Gov't C. 27522; adds Gov't C. 27491.56]

AB 1388 – Law enforcement settlement agreements (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Amends P.C. 832.7 and 13510.9 to exempt from confidentiality an agreement between an employing agency and a peace officer that requires the agency to destroy, remove, or conceal the records of a misconduct investigation; to halt or make particular findings in a misconduct investigation; or to restrict the disclosure of information about an allegation or investigation of misconduct. (NOTE: AB 847 (Chapter 383) and AB 1178 (Chapter 635) also amends P.C. 832.7.) [Amends P.C. 832.7, 13510.6]

SB 229 – Peace officers: deputy sheriffs (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Includes a deputy sheriff employed by Amador County or Nevada County within the definition of peace officer. [Amends P.C. 830.1]

SB 459 – Peace officers: confidential communications: exceptions: group peer support services (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Expands the definition of “confidential communication” for purposes of the Law Enforcement Peer Support (LEPS) and Crisis Referral Program to include information transmitted between law enforcement personnel recipients of group peer support services while a peer support team member or mental health professional provides group peer support services to those recipients. Expands the right of law enforcement personnel to refuse to disclose certain communications made while participating in peer support programs.

Clarifies that, notwithstanding the protection provided by LEPS, amends Gov't C. 8669.4 to add juvenile delinquency proceedings to the list of circumstances (e.g., criminal cases; disclosure is necessary to prevent a death, substantial bodily harm, or the commission of a crime) when a confidential communication made by a law enforcement officer in a peer support situation may be disclosed. [Amends Gov't C. 8669.3, 8669.4]

SB 524 – Law enforcement agencies: artificial intelligence (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Requires each law enforcement agency to maintain a policy to require an official report prepared by a law enforcement officer or any member of a law enforcement agency that is generated using artificial intelligence (AI) either fully or partially to include specified information, including a disclosure statement and the signature of the law enforcement officer or member of a law enforcement agency who prepared the official report, as specified. If an officer or any member of an agency uses AI to create an official report, it requires the first draft created to be retained for as long as the official report is retained. Except for the official report, prohibits a draft of any report created using AI from constituting an officer's statement. Requires an agency utilizing AI to generate a first draft or official report to maintain an audit trail that identifies certain things, including the person who used AI to create a report. Prohibits a contracted vendor from sharing, selling, or otherwise using information provided by a law enforcement agency to be processed by artificial intelligence, except as provided. [Adds P.C. 13663]

SB 627 – Law enforcement: masks (Effective *July 1, 2026*): Creates new Gov’t C. 7289 to require, by July 1, 2026, law enforcement agencies operating in California (including federal law enforcement) to maintain and publicly post a written policy on the use of facial coverings, including a policy that all sworn personnel not use a facial covering when on duty. Specifies some exceptions, such as undercover assignments and tactical operations where protective gear is required. Creates new P.C. 185.5, which is the new infraction/misdemeanor crime (a “wobblette”) of a law enforcement officer willfully and knowingly wearing a facial covering that conceals or obscures facial identity. [Adds Gov’t. C. 7289; adds P.C. 185.5]

SB 805 – Crimes (Effective *September 20, 2025*): Adds new Gov’t C. 7288 to require a law enforcement agency operating in California to post a written policy on the visible identification of sworn personnel. Adds new P.C. 13653 and 13654, which address law enforcement identification. Amends false personation crimes in P.C. 538d, 538e, 538f, 538g, and 538h to expand them to false personation “by any other means.” Also expands P.C. 538d (the false personation of a peace officer) to apply to the false personation of a law enforcement officer, which includes any federal law enforcement officer. Amends P.C. 1299.07 to prohibit a bail fugitive agent from using their position for purposes of immigration enforcement except pursuant to a judicial warrant or court order. [Adds Gov’t C. 7288; amends P.C. 538d, 538e, 538f, 538g, 538h, 1299.07; adds P.C. 13653, 13654]

SB 851 – Elections (Effective *October 1, 2025*): Amends Elections C. 15372 to provide that if an elections official fails to prepare a certified statement of the results of the election, would require the Secretary of State to call the violation to the attention of the district attorney of the county or to the Attorney General and authorize the Secretary of State to assist the county elections official in discharging their duties, consistent with those provisions. Amends Elections C. 18545 (the felony/misdemeanor crime of hiring/arranging for a peace officer or security personnel to be stationed near a polling place or elections office without written authorization of the elections official) to expand it to “law enforcement” officers, so as to include federal law enforcement and to require the written authorization of an elections official or

a federal court order. It also amends Elections C. 18568 to make it a felony to display an envelope (in addition to a container under existing law) for the purpose of collecting ballots to deceive a voter into casting a ballot in an unofficial ballot box. [Amends Elections C. 15371, 15372, 15375, 15400, 18545, 18568, 19006, 19101, 19212, 19215, 19284, 19290, adds Elections C. 21]

LOOTING

AB 468 – Crimes: Looting (Effective *January 1, 2026*): Amends P.C. 459 to add that the fact that a structure has been damaged by a natural or other disaster does not preclude conviction for burglary. Recasts the offense of looting to include first-degree burglary, second-degree burglary, grand theft, trespass, and theft from a vehicle, when those offenses are committed in an evacuation zone, to the crime of looting. It also, for the purposes of the offense of looting, defines an evacuation zone to include an evacuation area or an area subject to an evacuation warning, and to include any residential dwelling units in such an area for a period of one year after the evacuation order, or up to three years if the property is undergoing construction. Imposes increased penalties for these offenses committed within an evacuation zone, as specified. [Amends P.C. 459; repeals and adds P.C. 463.]

SB 571 – Emergencies: crimes (Effective *January 1, 2026*): Authorizes the court to consider the fact, if pled and proven, that the defendant committed the crime of looting while impersonating emergency personnel as a factor in aggravation.

Makes it a crime, punishable as a misdemeanor or a felony, for a person, other than a first responder to wear, exhibit, or use the uniform, insignia, emblem, device, label, certificate, card, or writing of a first responder with the intent of fraudulently impersonating a first responder within an area under an evacuation order, as specified. Also makes it a wobbler to impersonate a first responder on the internet or by electronic means during an evacuation order or within 30 days of its termination for the purpose of defrauding another, as specified.

[NOTE: Existing law, until January 1, 2029, defines the offense of aggravated arson, and defines the aggravating factors for the offense as: the person has been previously convicted of arson on one or more occasions within the past 10 years,

the fire caused property damage and other losses in excess of \$10,100,000, or the fire caused damage to, or the destruction of, five or more inhabited dwellings. Existing law, commencing January 1, 2029, deletes the aggravating factor of property damage and other losses more than \$10,100,000 from the definition of aggravated arson. This bill states that it is the intent of the Legislature that amendments to the described dollar amounts are to be applied prospectively and shall not be interpreted to benefit any defendant who committed a crime or received a sentence before the effective date of the amendment.] [Amends P.C. 451.5; adds P.C. 463.2, 538i]

MENTALLY ILL OFFENDERS

SB 27 – Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment (CARE) Court Program (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Allows the court to make a prima facie determination without conducting a hearing. In the first hearing to determine competence to stand trial, authorizes the court to consider the petitioner’s eligibility for both diversion and the CARE program. Authorizes the court to refer the petitioner to the CARE Act court if the defendant or counsel for the defendant agrees to the referral and the court has reason to believe the petitioner may be eligible for the CARE program. If the petitioner is not accepted into the CARE program or if the CARE Act court refers the petitioner back to criminal court, as specified, the bill requires the criminal court to conduct a hearing to determine whether the petitioner is eligible for a diversion program. It authorizes the county behavioral health agency and jail medical providers to share confidential medical records and other relevant information with the court for the purpose of determining likelihood of eligibility for behavioral health services and programs.

Authorizes the court to call additional progress hearings after 60 days. It includes persons suffering from bipolar I disorder with psychotic features, except for psychosis related to current intoxication, in the disorder class. Additionally authorizes a court to refer an individual from felony proceedings, as specified, to the CARE Act program. It authorizes a CARE Act court to consider a referral as a petition for participation in the CARE program if certain requirements are met. Includes a nurse practitioner and physician assistant as a licensed behavioral health

professional for purposes of individuals authorized to prepare an affidavit supporting a CARE process petition. [Amends P.C. 1370.01; amends W&I 5971, 5972, 5975, 5977, 5977.1, 5977.3, 5978, 5985]

SB 820 – Inmates: mental health (*Effective January 1, 2026*): P.C. 2603.5 is added to provide that if an individual has been found incompetent to stand trial under P.C. 1370.01 after having been charged with a misdemeanor, they can be administered antipsychotic medication without their prior informed consent on an emergency basis (as defined by W&I 5008(m) or P.C. 2603(d)) when treatment is necessary to address the emergency condition and the medication is administered in the least restrictive manner. Specifies this determination is valid for up to 72 hours if the medication is necessary to address the emergency condition. If a psychiatrist determines that continued administration of antipsychotic medication is necessary beyond the initial 72 hours and the individual does not consent to take the medication voluntarily, the psychiatrist may petition the superior court in the county where the individual is confined to order continued treatment with antipsychotic medication. The individual has a right to notice of the hearing, their diagnosis, the basis for the diagnosis and of the benefits/risks of the medication. They have a right to be represented by counsel, access to their medical records, to confront and cross examine witnesses.

Requires the court, prior to issuing an involuntary medication order after hearing, to find by clear and convincing evidence that, among other things, (1) a psychiatrist or psychologist has determined that the individual has a mental health disorder that can be treated with antipsychotic medication, (2) a psychiatrist or psychologist has determined that as a result of that mental disorder the individual is gravely disabled and lacks the capacity to consent to or refuse treatment with antipsychotic medications, (3) that serious harm to the physical or mental health of the individual is likely to result absent treatment with antipsychotic medication, (4) that a psychiatrist has prescribed one or more antipsychotic medications for the treatment of the individual’s disorder and has considered the risk, benefits, and treatment alternatives to involuntary medication, and has determined that the treatment alternatives to involuntary medication are unlikely to meet the needs of the individual, (5) that the individual

has been advised of the expected benefits of any potential side effects and risks to the individual any alternatives to treatment with antipsychotic medication and refuses or is unable to consent to the administration of the medication, (6) the jail has made a documented attempt to locate an available bed for the individual in a community-based treatment facility in lieu of seeking to administer involuntary medication and if a community-based alternative is not available medication shall only be administered by noncustodial health care staff and individuals will be monitored at least every 15 minutes for at least one hour after administration of medication, and (7) that there is no less intrusive alternative to the involuntary administration of antipsychotic medication, and involuntary administration of the medication is in the individual's best medical interest.

This order shall be reviewed no more than 60 days after it is issued for continued validity. Confinement in custody shall not be extended for the purposes of providing treatment to the individual with antipsychotic medication. The involuntary medication order is only valid up to: (1) 90 days from the date the individual is found incompetent to stand trial pursuant to P.C. 1370.01, (2) 90 days after the individual is referred to a program under P.C. 1370.01(b)(4), 3) upon order of any court with jurisdiction over the individual, and (4) the individual is released from custody.

In addition to administration of medication on an emergency basis, antipsychotic medication can also be administered to the (misdemeanor incompetent to stand trial) individual without their prior consent upon a court's determination that they are gravely disabled as defined in W&I 5008(h)(1)(A) and the individual does not have the capacity to consent to or refuse treatment with antipsychotic medication. The fact that the individual has temporary access to food, clothing, shelter, personal safety, and necessary medical care while incarcerated is not a basis to conclude that the individual is able to provide for their basic personal needs for food, clothing, shelter, personal safety, or necessary medical care, which shall be evaluated based upon the individual's ability to provide for those needs while not incarcerated. The court shall consider opinions in the reports prepared pursuant to P.C. 1369(b), as to the issue of whether the individual lacks the capacity to make decisions regarding the administration of antipsychotic medication and conduct a hearing

as to the propriety of treatment with antipsychotic medication.

P.C. 4011.6 is amended to add the following provision: When a person in custody is transferred from a jail to a 72-hour facility for treatment and evaluation pursuant to this subdivision, the fact that the person has temporary access to food, clothing, shelter, personal safety, and necessary medical care while incarcerated is not a basis to conclude that the person is able to provide for their basic personal needs, which shall be evaluated based upon the person's ability to provide for those needs outside the jail setting. [Amends P.C. 4011.6; adds and repeals P.C. 2603.5]

NEW FELONIES

SB 19 – Crimes: threats (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Creates new P.C. 422.3, a felony / misdemeanor crime that prohibits willfully threatening by any means (including an image or threat posted on the internet), to commit a crime that will result in death or great bodily injury to another person or persons at a daycare, school, university, workplace, house of worship, or medical facility with the specific intent that the statement is to be taken as a threat, even if there is no intent to actually carry it out, if the threat causes a person to reasonably be in sustained fear. [Adds P.C. 422.3]

SB 398 – Election crimes; payment based on voting or voter registration (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Creates a new wobbler misdemeanor / felony crime for a person to knowingly or willfully pay or offer to pay money or other valuable consideration to another person with the intent to induce the person to vote or to register to vote, or where the payment is contingent upon whether the person voted or the person's voter registration status. [Adds Election C. 18107.5]

SB 571 – Emergencies: crimes (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Authorizes the court to consider the fact, if pled and proven, that the defendant committed the crime of looting while impersonating emergency personnel as a factor in aggravation. Makes it a crime, punishable as a misdemeanor or a felony, for a person, other than a first responder to wear, exhibit, or use the uniform, insignia, emblem, device, label, certificate, card, or writing of a first responder with the intent of fraudulently impersonating a first responder within an area

under an evacuation order, as specified. Also makes it a crime, punishable as a misdemeanor or a felony, to impersonate a first responder on the internet or by electronic means during an evacuation order or within 30 days of its termination for the purpose of defrauding another, as specified.

[NOTE: Existing law, until January 1, 2029, defines the offense of aggravated arson, and defines the aggravating factors for the offense as: the person has been previously convicted of arson on one or more occasions within the past 10 years, the fire caused property damage and other losses in excess of \$10,100,000, or the fire caused damage to, or the destruction of, five or more inhabited dwellings. Existing law, commencing January 1, 2029, deletes the aggravating factor of property damage and other losses more than \$10,100,000 from the definition of aggravated arson. This bill states that it is the intent of the Legislature that amendments to the described dollar amounts are to be applied prospectively and shall not be interpreted to benefit any defendant who committed a crime or received a sentence before the effective date of the amendment.] [Amends P.C. 451.5; adds P.C. 463.2, 538i]

SB 701 – Signal jammers (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Adds P.C. 636.6, which defines “signal jammer” as a device that intentionally blocks, jams, or interferes with authorized radio or wireless communications. It provides that a person who manufactures, imports, markets, purchases, sells, or operates a signal jammer, unless authorized to do so by the Federal Communications Commission, is guilty of an infraction, punishable by a fine not to exceed five hundred dollars (\$500) for a first offense. A second or subsequent violation is a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment in a county jail not exceeding year, by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000), or by both that fine and imprisonment. A person who operates a signal jammer in conjunction with the commission of a misdemeanor or felony is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment in a county jail not exceeding one year, or by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000), or by both that fine and imprisonment. A person who willfully or maliciously uses a signal jammer to block state or local public safety communications, and who knows or should know that using the signal jammer is likely to result in death or great bodily injury and great bodily injury or death is sustained

by any person as a result of that use, is guilty of a crime, punishable by imprisonment in a county jail not exceeding one year or pursuant to subdivision (h) of Section 1170. A conviction under this section requires forfeiture of the signal jamming device. [Adds P.C. 636.6]

NEW MISDEMEANORS

AB 831 – Gambling: operation of a contest or sweepstakes (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Creates the misdemeanor crime of operating, conducting, or offering an online sweepstakes game. Punishable by up to one year in jail and /or by a fine of between \$1,000 and \$25,000. According to a bill analysis, this bill prohibits “an online sweepstakes game (game, contest, or promotion), as described, that simulates or mimics casino-style gambling or a gambling-themed games, as defined, by utilizing a dual-currency system of payment that allows a person to play or participate with direct or indirect consideration, and for which the person playing or participating may become eligible for a prize, award, cash, or cash equivalents or a chance to win a prize, award, cash, or cash equivalents.” [Amends B&P 17539.1; adds P.C. 337o]

AB 1127 – Firearms: converter pistols (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Prohibits a licensed firearms dealer to sell, offer for sale, exchange, give, transfer, or deliver any semiautomatic machinegun-convertible pistol, except as specified. Amends Civil C. 3273.5 by (1) amending definition of “firearm accessory” to include attachments or devices that increase rate of fire or decrease time to reload; that turn a firearm into an assault weapon; and “any other device, tool, kit, part, or parts set that is clearly designed and intended for use in manufacturing firearms;” (2) amending definition of “firearm manufacturing machine” to include machines reasonable designed or intended to be used to manufacture or produce firearms, firearm components, or firearm accessories. [Previously only applied to machines to produce firearms]; and (3) amending definition of “reasonable controls” to include controls designed to “[p]revent the installation and use of a pistol converter ... with a firearm.”

Amends definition of machinegun in P.C. 16880 to include any machinegun-convertible pistol equipped with a pistol converter. Adds P.C. 16885 to define “machinegun-convertible pistol” as any semiautomatic pistol with a cruciform trigger bar

that can be readily converted by hand or with common household tools into a machinegun by the installation or attachment of a pistol converter, as specified, and adds P.C. 17015 to define “pistol converter” as any device or instrument that, when installed in or attached to the rear of the slide of a semiautomatic pistol, replaces the backplate and interferes with the trigger mechanism and thereby enables the pistol to shoot automatically more than one shot by a single function of the trigger.

Adds P.C. 27595 (*effective July 1, 2026*) to make a violation of these provisions punishable by a fine, a second violation punishable by a fine that may result in a suspension or revocation of the dealer’s license and removal from certain centralized lists maintained by the Department of Justice, and a third violation punishable as a misdemeanor that shall result in the revocation of the dealer’s license and removal from certain centralized lists. [Amends Civ. C. 3272.50; amends P.C. 16880; adds P.C. 16885, 17015, 27595, 32103]

AB 1263 – Firearms: ghost guns (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Amends P.C. 29805 to add a new subdivision (h) to provide that a person convicted on or after January 1, 2026, of a specified firearms violation (P.C. 24610, 27520, 29185, 29186, 30605, 30610, 32900, 33215, 33600) and within 10 years of the conviction owns, purchases, receives, or possesses a firearm is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by up to one year in jail and/or by a fine of up to \$1,000.

Adds P.C. 29186 as a new misdemeanor crime of knowingly or willfully causing another person to engage in the unlawful manufacture of firearms, or to knowingly or willfully aid, abet, promote, or facilitate the unlawful manufacture of firearms. [NOTE: Because P.C. 29186 simply says that “[a] violation of this section is a misdemeanor,” existing P.C. 19 controls. P.C. 19 provides that except in cases where a different punishment is prescribed, every offense declared to be a misdemeanor is punishable by up to six months in jail and/or by a fine of up to \$1,000.]

Amends Civil C. 3273.5 by (1) amending definition of “firearm accessory” to include attachments or devices that increase rate of fire or decrease time to reload; that turn a firearm into an assault weapon; and “any other device, tool, kit, part, or parts set that is clearly designed and intended for use in manufacturing firearms;” (2) amending definition of “firearm manufacturing

machine” to include machines reasonable designed or intended to be used to manufacture or produce firearms, firearm components, or firearm accessories. [Previously only applied to machines to produce firearms]; and (3) amending definition of “reasonable controls” to include controls designed to “[p]revent the installation and use of a pistol converter ... with a firearm.”

Amends Civil C. 3273.51 to require licensed dealers to take the following steps prior to completing the sale or delivery of a firearm accessory, a firearm manufacturing machine, or an unattached barrel: (1) provide clear and conspicuous notice that it is a crime in California to manufacture more than three firearms per year, to manufacture a firearm using a 3-D printer or CNC milling machine, manufacture a firearm for the purpose of sale or transfer to anyone not licensed to manufacture firearms, or with the intent to complete the sale or transfer without a background check, to allow a prohibited person to manufacture a firearm, or to manufacture assault weapons or unsafe handguns; (2) receive acknowledgment that the purchaser received and understands the notice; verify the purchaser is at least 18 years of age. Amends Civil C. 3273.51 regarding shipment and delivery of firearm barrels, accessories, or manufacturing machines to require the dealer to: (1) conspicuously label the package to require ID, a signature and proof of age (at least 18); (2) ensure shipping address matches purchaser’s identification.

Amends definition of “digital firearm manufacturing code: in Civil Code 3273.60 to include “computer aided manufacturing files” regarding instructions to manufacture firearms or precursor parts, large capacity magazines or conversion kits, machineguns, multiburst trigger activators, silencers, firearm accessories, and firearm barrels.

Amends Civil C. 3273.61 regarding civil actions to extend strict liability, provide for private plaintiffs to seek injunctive relief, and create a rebuttable presumption.

Adds Civil C. 3273.625 to create a new cause of action for “knowingly, willfully, or recklessly” aiding, abetting, promoting, facilitating, or causing another to engage in the unlawful manufacture of firearms. Attorney General, county counsel, or city attorneys may bring suit for up to \$25,000 per violation.

The Civil Code sections amended and created are in the Firearm Industry Responsibility Act (Civil C. 3273.50–3273.55) and in Firearm Manufacturing (Title 21) (Civil C. 3273.60–3273.62.) [Amends Civil C. 3273.50, 3273.51, 3273.60, 3273.61; adds Civil C. 3273.625; amends P.C. 29805; adds P.C. 29186]

AB 1319 – Protected species: California

Endangered Species Act (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Creates a new misdemeanor crime prohibiting the importing, exporting, transporting, selling, offering to sell, etc., of any fish, wildlife, or plant taken, possessed, transported, or sold in violation of any law, statute, or treaty in effect on January 19, 2025. Sets forth the punishment for first convictions and second and subsequent convictions. Provides for a three-year statute of limitations.

Provides definitions and authorizes the Department of Fish & Wildlife to do specified things, such as monitor the actions of federal authorities that could result in a decrease in endangered or threatened species protections. [Adds and repeals F&G 2017, 2076.7]

SB 19 – Crimes: threats (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Creates new P.C. 422.3, a felony/misdemeanor crime that prohibits willfully threatening by any means (including an image or threat posted on the internet), to commit a crime that will result in death or great bodily injury to another person or persons at a daycare, school, university, workplace, house of worship, or medical facility with the specific intent that the statement is to be taken as a threat, even if there is no intent to actually carry it out, if the threat causes a person to reasonably be in sustained fear. [Adds P.C. 422.3]

SB 571 – Emergencies: crimes (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Authorizes the court to consider the fact, if pled and proven, that the defendant committed the crime of looting while impersonating emergency personnel as a factor in aggravation.

Makes it a crime, punishable as a misdemeanor or a felony, for a person, other than a first responder to wear, exhibit, or use the uniform, insignia, emblem, device, label, certificate, card, or writing of a first responder with the intent of fraudulently impersonating a first responder within an area under an evacuation order, as specified. Also makes it a crime, punishable as a misdemeanor or a felony, to impersonate a first

responder on the internet or by electronic means during an evacuation order or within 30 days of its termination for the purpose of defrauding another, as specified.

[NOTE: Existing law, until January 1, 2029, defines the offense of aggravated arson, and defines the aggravating factors for the offense as: the person has been previously convicted of arson on one or more occasions within the past 10 years, the fire caused property damage and other losses in excess of \$10,100,000, or the fire caused damage to, or the destruction of, five or more inhabited dwellings. Existing law, commencing January 1, 2029, deletes the aggravating factor of property damage and other losses more than \$10,100,000 from the definition of aggravated arson. This bill states that it is the intent of the Legislature that amendments to the described dollar amounts are to be applied prospectively and shall not be interpreted to benefit any defendant who committed a crime or received a sentence before the effective date of the amendment.] [Amends P.C. 451.5; adds P.C. 463.2, 538i]

SB 627 – Law enforcement: masks (*Effective July 1, 2026*): Creates new Gov't C. 7289 to require, by July 1, 2026, law enforcement agencies operating in California (including federal law enforcement) to maintain and publicly post a written policy on the use of facial coverings, including a policy that all sworn personnel not use a facial covering when on duty. Specifies some exceptions, such as undercover assignments and tactical operations where protective gear is required. Creates new P.C. 185.5, which is the new infraction/misdemeanor crime (a “wobblette”) of a law enforcement officer willfully and knowingly wearing a facial covering that conceals or obscures facial identity. [Adds Gov't. C. 7289; adds P.C. 185.5]

SB 701 – Signal jammers (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Adds P.C. 636.6, which defines “signal jammer” as a device that intentionally blocks, jams, or interferes with authorized radio or wireless communications. It provides that a person who manufactures, imports, markets, purchases, sells, or operates a signal jammer, unless authorized to do so by the Federal Communications Commission, is guilty of an infraction, punishable by a fine not to exceed five hundred dollars (\$500) for a first offense. A second or subsequent violation is a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment

in a county jail not exceeding year, by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000), or by both that fine and imprisonment. A person who operates a signal jammer in conjunction with the commission of a misdemeanor or felony is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment in a county jail not exceeding one year, or by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000), or by both that fine and imprisonment. A person who willfully or maliciously uses a signal jammer to block state or local public safety communications, and who knows or should know that using the signal jammer is likely to result in death or great bodily injury and great bodily injury or death is sustained by any person as a result of that use, is guilty of a crime, punishable by imprisonment in a county jail not exceeding one year or pursuant to subdivision (h) of Section 1170. A conviction under this section requires forfeiture of the signal jamming device. [Adds P.C. 636.6]

SB 704 – Firearms: firearm barrels (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Adds P.C. 16525 to define “firearm barrel,” and adds P.C. 33700 which creates new misdemeanor and felony crimes related to the sale, transfer, purchase, or acquisition of a firearm barrel. [Amends P.C. 28235; adds P.C. 16525, 33700]

PAROLE

AB 1094 – Crimes: torture of a minor: parole (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Amends P.C. 206.1 to prohibit parole until the defendant has served at least 10 years, if the victim is age 14 or younger at the time of the crime and the defendant is an adult who had care or custody of the victim. (Any other type of torture remains a life crime subject to P.C. 3046, which requires a minimum of seven calendar years be served before parole is granted.) [Amends P.C. 206.1]

PORNOGRAPHY

AB 621– Deepfake pornography (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Existing law in Civil C. 1708.86 grants a depicted individual a cause of action against a person who creates/ discloses deepfake pornography in their likeness without their consent. AB 621 amends Civil C. 1708.86 in several ways, including adding a definition of “digitized sexually explicit materials,” addressing persons who own, operate, or control deepfake

pornography services, and increasing the maximum damages. Adds that a public prosecutor may bring a civil action to enforce this section, and defines public prosecutor as a district attorney, city attorney, county counsel, city or county prosecutor, or the Attorney General. [Amends Civil C. 1708.86]

PRIVACY

AB 45 – Privacy, health data: location and research (*Effective January 1, 2026*): New Civil C. 1798.99.92 makes it unlawful to geofence an entity that provides in-person health care services for any one of several specified purposes, such as to identify or track a person seeking health care services. Authorizes the Attorney General to bring a civil action to recover a civil penalty of \$25,000 per violation. This bill contains other changes relating to geofencing and health care. [Amends Civ. C. 17988.99.90, 1798.99.91, 1798.99.92, 1798.99.93; amends H&S 150]

AB 1392 – Elections: voter registration information: elected officials and candidates (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Creates new Elections C. 2166.9 to make confidential the voter registration records (residence address, telephone number, and email address) of local/ state/ federal elected officials and candidates for elective office. [Amends Elections C. 2194, 2227, 8040, 8600, 10226.3; adds Elections C. 2166.9]

AB 1521 – Committee on Judiciary: judiciary omnibus (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Adds P.C. 76.5 to read: (a) No person shall knowingly post the home address or telephone number of any elected or appointed official, or of the official’s residing spouse or child, on the internet knowing that person is an elected or appointed official and intending to cause imminent great bodily harm that is likely to occur or threatening to cause imminent great bodily harm to that individual. (b) A violation of this section is a misdemeanor. (c) A violation of this section that leads to the bodily injury of the official, or the official’s residing spouse or child, is a misdemeanor or a felony. Section 1798.84.1 is added to the Civil Code, to read: (a) No person, business, or association shall solicit, sell, or trade on the internet the home address or telephone number of an elected or appointed official with the intent to cause imminent great bodily harm to the official or to any person residing at the official’s

home address. (b) Notwithstanding any other law, an official whose home address or telephone number is solicited, sold, or traded in violation of subdivision (a) may bring an action in any court of competent jurisdiction. (c) If a jury or court finds that a violation has occurred, it shall award damages to that official in an amount up to a maximum of three times the actual damages but in no case less than four thousand dollars (\$4,000). [Amends B&P 10157.5; amends Civ. C. 1785.27, 1788.2, 2923.7, 2924.18, 2924f; adds Civ. C. 1798.84.1; amends Code Civ. Proc. 697.530, 1141.30, 1710.45, 2016.040, 2023.010, 2030.020, 2031.020, 2033.020; amends Corp. C. 15800; amends Gov't C. 12974; repeals Gov't C. 7928.210, 7928.215, 7928.220, 7928.225, 7928.230; amends H&S 103470; adds P.C. 76.5; amends Probate C. 9202; amends W&I 319]

SB 50 – Connected Devices: device protection requests (*Effective January 1, 2026*) Authorize a survivor (of a crime of, e.g., sexual assault, CSAM, DV, stalking, human trafficking, child abuse/abduction-conviction or court order not required), or a designated representative of a survivor, to submit a device protection request to an account manager (provider or manager of internet or app-based account) seeking to terminate a perpetrator's access to a connected device or associated user account. Requires an account manager, within two business days of receiving a complete device protection request, to terminate or disable the perpetrator's access to the connected device or user account, or to inform the survivor, in a clear and conspicuous manner, of any methods to reset the device to factory settings or a similar state that removes all account holders, as provided. Requires the account manager to keep all information provided by survivor confidential then to dispose of that information. The account manager is prohibited from notifying the perpetrator of the access termination.

The findings and declarations state:

(a) According to the National Domestic Violence Hotline, almost one-half of all women and men in the United States have experienced psychological aggression by an intimate partner in their lifetime.

(b) According to the National Network to End Domestic Violence, 97 percent of domestic violence programs report that

abusers misuse technology to stalk, harass, and control victims.

(c) An increase in the use of technology has become a concerning tool in cases of domestic violence and harassment. Perpetrators leverage smartphone applications to remotely control everyday objects to exercise control over, monitor, and abuse their victims.

(d) Domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, sexual assault, human trafficking, and related crimes are life-threatening issues and have lasting and harmful effects on individuals, families, and entire communities.

(e) Survivors often lack meaningful support and options when establishing independence from an abuser, including barriers such as financial insecurity and limited access to reliable communications tools to maintain essential connections with family, social safety networks, employers, and support services.

(f) Laws related to the use of technology can play a public interest role in the promotion of safety, life, and property with respect to these types of violence and abuse. Independent access to devices can assist survivors in establishing security and autonomy.

(g) Safeguards within tech-based services can serve a role in preventing abuse and narrowing the digital divide experienced by survivors of abuse.

[Adds B&P 22948.30, 22948.31, 22948.32, 22948.33, 22948.34, 22948.35, 22948.36, 22948.37; amends Fam. C. 6320]

SB 446 – Data breaches: customer notification (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Requires that a data breach disclosure to be made within 30 calendar days of discovery or notification of the data breach but authorizes an individual or business to delay the disclosure to accommodate the legitimate needs of law enforcement, as specified, or as necessary to determine the scope of the breach and restore the reasonable integrity of the data system. Requires that notification to the Attorney General be made within 15 calendar days of notifying affected consumers of the security breach. [Amends P.C. 1798.82]

SB 497 – Legally protected health care activity

(Effective October 13, 2025): Amends several sections of the Civil Code, Code of Civil Procedure, and Health & Safety Code, as well as P.C. 1326 (subpoenas). P.C. 1326(c) is amended to prohibit health care entities from releasing medical information related to an individual seeking or obtaining gender-affirming health care of gender-affirming mental health care in response to a foreign subpoena that is based on the other state's laws authorizing a criminal action that interferes with an individual's right to seek or obtain such care. [Amends Civ. C. 56.109; amends Code Civ. Proc. 2029.300, 2029.350; amends H&S 11165; amends P.C. 1326]

PROBATION

AB 1087 – Crimes: vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated

(Effective January 1, 2026): Increases the probation period for a person who is convicted of the unlawful killing of a human being, without malice aforethought, while driving under the influence to be not less than three years and not more than five years. [Amends P.C. 191.5]

AB 1258 – Deferred entry of judgment pilot program

(Effective January 1, 2026): Amends P.C. 1000.7 to extend the sunset date for three years, from January 1, 2026, to January 1, 2029, on the deferred entry of judgment pilot program for young adults. Eliminates Alameda County from the program. Retains three counties: Butte, Nevada, and Santa Clara.

AB 1376 – Wards: probation (Effective January 1, 2026): Adds W&I 602.05, which limits to 12 months from the most recent disposition hearing the period of time a ward may remain on probation, except that a court may extend the probation period after a noticed hearing and upon proof by a preponderance of the evidence that it is in the ward's and the public's best interest. Requires the probation agency to submit a report to the court detailing the basis for any request to extend probation at the noticed hearing. Requires the court to provide the ward and the prosecuting attorney with the opportunity to present relevant evidence at that hearing, as specified. Requires the court to hold noticed hearings for the ward not less frequently than every six months for the remainder of the wardship period if the court extends

probation. Specifies that all of these provisions do not apply to specified wards, including a ward who is in placement, is serving a custodial commitment to a juvenile hall, juvenile home, ranch, camp, forestry camp, or a ward transferred from a secure youth treatment facility to a less restrictive program or to any ward who is discharged from a secure youth treatment facility pursuant to a probation discharge hearing. Additionally requires, among other things, that conditions of probation for a ward be individually tailored, developmentally appropriate, and reasonable and deletes the mandatory imposition of certain conditions of probation (such as counseling, repairing property, repaying the cost of apprehension to the city or county, community service, curfew, substance abuse testing) for very specific offenses – courts now have discretion to impose those conditions. [Amends W&I 729, 729.1, 729.2, 729.6, 729.8, 729.9, 730, 742.16; adds W&I 602.05]

SB 857 – Senate public safety omnibus

(Effective January 1, 2026): Makes technical and non-controversial changes to various code sections relating generally to criminal justice laws.

Of note are the technical changes made to P.C. 1370(a)(1)(B)(iii)(III), which allows the court to consider unsuitability under P.C. 1001.36(c) and any of the conditions in P.C. 1001.36(g). Also note the change to W&I 755 to clarify that the provision that allows a person adjudged to be a ward of the court or placed on probation by the court may reside in a county other than their county of legal residence while being under the supervision of the probation of the county of actual residence applies to wards discharged to probation after being confined in a secure youth treatment facility or after being transferred to a less restrictive program from a secure youth treatment facility. [Amends B&P 7583.7, 7598.2; amends Educ. C. 49428.2, 49428.15, 56366.1; amends Fam. C. 6389; amends Gov't C. 7286, 8589.11, 8589.15, 12838, 12838.6, 13332.09, 14612, 20403; amends H&S 1180.2, 1180.4, 1250.10, 1522.41, 1562.01, 1563, 127825; amends Labor C. 6401.8; amends P.C. 311.2, 835a, 1171, 1370, 1370.01, 1463.007, 1473.1, 2052, 2056, 2700, 2701, 2716.5, 2800, 2801, 2802, 2804, 2806, 2808, 2810.5, 2811, 2816, 2817, 2818, 4497.50, 4497.52, 4497.54, 4497.56, 6025, 6202, 13511.1, 13515.26, 13515.27, 13515.28, 13515.295, 13515.30, 13519.10, 13652, 13652.1, 18108; adds P.C. 2800.5; amends Pub. Contract C. 6108, 10103.5, 10332, 12217; amends Public Res. C. 4953,

42989.2.1; amends Pub. Utilities C. 99243; amends Unempl. Ins. C. 1095; amends Veh. C. 1808.4, 5072; amends W&I 755, 786, 788, 16001.9, 16527, 16529, 18358.10, 18358.20, 18358.30, 18360.10, 18999.93]

PROTECTIVE ORDERS/RESTRAINING ORDERS

AB 451 – Restraining orders (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Adds P.C. 13667 to require municipal police department and county sheriff’s department, Department of the California Highway Patrol, and the University of California and California State University Police Departments to, on or before January 1, 2027, develop, adopt, and implement written policies and standards to promote safe, consistent, and effective service, implementation, and enforcement of court protection and restraining orders that include firearm access restrictions. Requires these policies and standards to, among other things, provide a standard agency process for law enforcement to serve an order against a restrained person in a timely manner and ensure the agency consistently complies with specified requirements under California law governing service of protection and restraining orders. [Adds P.C. 13667]

AB 561 – Restraining orders (*Effective January 1, 2027*): Permits restraining order petitions to be filed electronically, at no cost to DVRO petitioners, elder abuse petitioners, or a petitioner who alleges the person to be restrained has inflicted or threatened violence against the petitioner, has stalked the petitioner, or has placed the petitioner in reasonable fear of violence. Permits parties and witnesses to appear remotely. Requires copies of relevant court documents to be provided electronically upon request. Makes other conforming amendments. [Amends Code Civ. Proc. 527.6; amends Fam. C. 6307, 6308, amends Gov’t C. 6103.2; amends W&I 15657.03]

AB 1363 – Protective orders: Wyland’s Law (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Subject to an appropriation by the Legislature, authorizes DOJ to establish, or contract with a vendor to establish, an automated protected person information and notification system to provide a petitioner or a protected person in a protective order case with automated access to information about their case. Requires a record demonstrating whether

the superior court has fulfilled its transmission obligations or a record demonstrating receipt of information about a protective order to be open to public inspection and copying. [Adds Fam. C. 6380.5]

PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

AB 1067 – Public employees’ retirement: felony convictions (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Requires a public employer that is investigating a public employee for misconduct arising out of or in the performance of, the public employee’s official duties in pursuit of the office or appointment, or in connection with obtaining salary, disability retirement, service retirement, or other benefits, to continue the investigation even if the public employee retires while under investigation, if the investigation indicates that the public employee may have committed a crime. It requires a public employer, if the investigation indicates that the public employee may have committed a crime, to refer the matter to the appropriate law enforcement agency and then authorizes the public employer to close the investigation. If the public employee is convicted of any felony involving accepting or giving, or offering to give, any bribe, the embezzlement of public money, extortion or theft of public money, perjury, or conspiracy to commit any of those crimes arising directly out of their official duties as an elected public officer, the public employee would forfeit all accrued rights and benefits in any public retirement system pursuant to the provisions governing forfeiture. [Adds Gov’t C. 7522.76]

SB 521 – Public Employment, disqualification (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Expands the provision that disqualifies a public employee from any public employment for five years if the employee is convicted of any felony involving accepting or giving, or offering to give, a bribe, the embezzlement of public money, extortion or theft of public money, perjury, or conspiracy to commit any of those crimes arising directly out of their official duties to include any felony involving a conflict of interest. It also disqualifies a city manager or city attorney, including an individual acting under contract with the city for those services, who is convicted of any of the above-described felonies, from any future public employment in

an equivalent role. [Amends Gov't C. 1021.5; adds Gov't C. 1021.6]

RACIAL JUSTICE ACT

AB 1071 – Criminal procedure: discrimination (*Effective January 1, 2026*) and **SB 734 – Criminal procedure: discrimination** (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Chapter 721 (AB 1071) and Chapter 784 (SB 734) amend P.C. 745, 1473, and 1473.7 as it relates to the Racial Justice Act (RJA). All three provisions now require that if a defendant is represented by an attorney and they file a motion/petition alleging a violation of P.C. 745(a)(1) and (a)(2) relating to the conduct of one or more law enforcement officers, the attorney shall serve a copy of the motion on the law enforcement agency employing those officer(s). It provides that in any proceeding alleging a violation of P.C. 745(a), a defendant or petitioner may file a motion for relevant discovery under 745(d). That motion for discovery may be made in preparation for the filing of any petition or motion under P.C. 1473 and 1473.7. The amendments to P.C. 745(e)(1) now make it mandatory that the court impose a pre-judgment remedy. The list of pre-judgment remedies under (e)(1) now includes, “any other remedy not prohibited by another law.” The amendments to P.C. 1473 and 1473.7 require that “[a]ny and all definitions and legal thresholds specified in Section 745 are controlling for purposes of claims alleging a violation of subdivision (a) of Section 745” in a habeas petition or motion under 1473.7. So, a prima facie showing under P.C. 1473 or 1473.7 would be as defined under P.C. 745(h). A court may request an informal response from the state in making its prima facie determination on a filed petition. A petition raising a claim under the RJA for the first time based on new discovery or new evidence will not be considered a successive or abusive petition. An unadjudicated petition pending in state court may be amended with a claim under the RJA. The petition must state if the petitioner requests appointment of counsel and the court shall appoint counsel if petitioner cannot afford counsel and either the petition pleads a plausible allegation of a violation under P.C. 745 or the State Public Defender requests appointment. If the court finds a violation as set forth in the habeas petition or motion under P.C. 1473.7, it must impose one or more of the remedies provided for in P.C. 745(e).

SB 734 also added Gov't C. 3305.6, which provides that a punitive action or denial of promotion by a public agency against a public safety officer shall not be undertaken because of a court finding made under P.C. 745. But a public agency can take punitive action, deny promotion, or take other personnel action against an officer based on the underlying acts or omissions that formed the basis of the action brought under P.C. 745. This section does not grant immunity for civil or criminal liability for the acts or omissions that formed the basis for the P.C. 745 action.

SB 734 amended P.C. 13510.8 to provide that a peace officer certification shall not be revoked based on a court finding of a violation under P.C. 745. However, revocation can be based on the underlying acts or omissions which formed the basis for the action under P.C. 745.

Additionally, as set forth in Section 1(c) of AB 1071, the uncodified legislative findings and declarations include the following:

The Legislature reasserts the low threshold required to establish a prima facie showing under paragraphs (1) through (4) of subdivision (a) of the RJA. Courts have failed to find a prima facie showing or a violation in cases where individuals involved in the prosecution or investigation have: invoked long-held biases about men of color preying on White women; used dehumanizing and othering language such as “predator,” “monster,” “sociopath,” “terrorist,” “brute,” “thug,” “gangster,” “uncivilized,” “welfare queen,” “superpredator,” or “superhuman”; made racial slurs; elicited or made gratuitous references to gangs, tattoos, nicknames, or neighborhoods; used racially incendiary or coded words such as “ghetto,” “hood,” “baby mama,” or “pimp”; denigrated people who have immigrated to the United States; made gratuitous references to nationality, race, or immigration status; evoked historical and unacknowledged racialized fears that people of color are deceptive, manipulative, crime prone, or a present or future danger; and exaggerated the physical appearance and size of people of color. These examples reflect some of

the “many incarnations of racism that have plagued our criminal and juvenile justice systems since their inception.” (People v. Hardin (2024) 15 Cal.5th 834, 906 (dis. opn. of Evans, J.)) Courts also have at times failed to find a prima facie showing or a violation despite evidence of disparate charging and sentencing. The Legislature again emphasizes its rejection of McCleskey v. Kemp (1987) 481 U.S. 279, and its intent that statistical evidence be sufficient for finding a prima facie case and may suffice to show an RJA violation. (See, for example, Mosby v. Superior Court (2024) 99 Cal.App.5th 106, 133 (conc. opn. of Menetrez, J.))

RESTITUTION

AB 1213 – Restitution: priority (Effective January 1, 2026): The Restitution First Act. Requires that a restitution order be paid before all fines, restitution fines, penalty assessments, and other fees, as specified. Also make non-substantive, conforming changes. [Amends P.C. 1202.4]

SEARCH WARRANTS

AB 82 – Health care: legally protected health care activity (Effective January 1, 2026): Amends several Penal Code, Government Code, and Health and Safety Code sections relating to “legally protected health care activity.” Amends P.C. 629.51 (wiretapping), P.C. 1269b, P.C. 13778.2, and P.C. 13778.3. (P.C. 13778.2 and 13778.3 are a part of the “Reproductive Rights Law Enforcement Act”). P.C. 629.51, P.C. 1269b, and P.C. 13788.2 are amended to change “abortion” to “legally protected health care activity.” P.C. 13788.3 is amended to add a new subdivision (g) to authorize the Attorney General to bring a civil action against a person who submits a false affidavit pursuant to P.C. 13788.3(d), which provides that any out-of-state subpoena, warrant, wiretap order, pen register trap and trace order, legal process, or request from any law enforcement agent or entity shall include an affidavit or declaration under penalty of perjury that the discovery is not in connection with an out-of-state proceeding relating to any legally protected health care activity. *NOTE:*

“legally protected health care activity” is already defined in existing P.C. 1549.15. [Amends Gov’t C. 6215, 6215.1, 6215.2, 6218, 6218.01, 6218.05; amends H&S 11165, 11190; P.C. 629.51, 1269b, 13778.2, 13778.3]

SENTENCING

AB 352 – Crimes: criminal threats (Effective January 1, 2026): Authorizes the court to consider, as a factor in aggravation, that the defendant willfully threatened to commit a crime that would result in the death or great bodily injury of a person the defendant knew was a state constitutional officer, a member of the Legislature, or a judge or court commissioner, as specified. [Amends P.C. 422]

AB 812 – Recall and re-sentencing: incarcerated firefighters (Effective January 1, 2026): Amends P.C. 1172.1 to add a new subdivision (e) to require CDCR, by July 1, 2027, to promulgate regulations regarding the referral for re-sentencing of current participants in the California Conservation program, former participants in the program who are still in custody, and inmates working at institutional firehouses. Directs CDCR to authorize for re-sentencing referral inmates who have two or more years left to serve; to prohibit the exclusion of inmates from re-sentencing consideration based solely on past or pending parole hearing dates; and to prohibit the imposition of a minimum time served requirement as a condition for re-sentencing consideration. [Amends P.C. 1172.1]

AB 848 – Sexual battery (Effective January 1, 2026): Provides that if a defendant is convicted of a felony violation of P.C. 243.4, the fact that the defendant was employed at a hospital where the offense occurred, and the victim was in the defendant’s care or seeking medical care, is a factor in aggravation for sentencing. [Amends P.C. 243.4]

AB 1094 – Crimes: torture of a minor: parole (Effective January 1, 2026): Amends P.C. 206.1 to prohibit parole until the defendant has served at least 10 years, if the victim is age 14 or younger at the time of the crime and the defendant is an adult who had care or custody of the victim. (Any other type of torture remains a life crime subject to P.C. 3046, which requires a minimum of seven calendar years be served before parole is granted.) [Amends P.C. 206.1]

SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION

SB 680 – Sex offender registration: unlawful sexual intercourse with a minor (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Requires offenders convicted of engaging in an act of unlawful sexual intercourse with a minor who is more than three (3) years younger than the offender or, if the offender was 21 years of age or older, engaging in an act of unlawful sexual intercourse with a minor who is under 16 years of age, if the offense occurred on or after January 1, 2026, to register for 10 years as a tier one offender, unless the offender was not more than 10 years older than the minor and if that offense is the only one requiring the offender to register. [Amends P.C. 290]

SEXUAL ASSAULT

AB 250 – Sexual assault: statute of limitations (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Extends the eligibility period for revival of certain claims seeking to recover damages suffered as a result of a sexual assault that occurred on or after the plaintiff's 18th birthday when one or more entities are legally responsible for damages and the entity or their agents engaged in a cover up that would otherwise be barred prior to January 1, 2026, because the applicable statute of limitations has or had expired. Requires a revived claim against an entity, as defined, to allege that the plaintiff was sexually assaulted and that (1) one or more entities or persons are legally responsible for damages arising out of sexual assault by an alleged perpetrator against the plaintiff, and (2) an entity or entities, including their specified representatives, engaged in a cover up or attempted a cover up of a previous instance or allegations of sexual assault by an alleged perpetrator. It additionally revives a claim against the person who committed the sexual assault brought by a plaintiff who alleges, among other things, that one or more entities or persons are legally responsible for damages arising out of the sexual assault. Specifies that failure to allege a cover up as to one entity does not affect revival of a claim or claims against any other entity or person, including the perpetrator. Permits a cause of action for any such claim to proceed if already pending in court on the effective date of the bill or, if not filed by that date, to be commenced between January 1, 2026, and December 31, 2027. Exempts

public entities from these provisions and provides that public entities are not required to indemnify perpetrators of sexual assault, as specified. [Amends Code Civ. Proc. 340.16]

AB 848 – Sexual battery (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Provides that if a defendant is convicted of a felony violation of P.C. 243.4, the fact that the defendant was employed at a hospital where the offense occurred, and the victim was in the defendant's care or seeking medical care, is a factor in aggravation for sentencing. [Amends P.C. 243.4]

SB 50 – Connected Devices: device protection requests (*Effective January 1, 2026*) Authorize a survivor (of a crime of, e.g., sexual assault, CSAM, DV, stalking, human trafficking, child abuse/abduction-conviction or court order not required), or a designated representative of a survivor, to submit a device protection request to an account manager (provider or manager of internet or app-based account) seeking to terminate a perpetrator's access to a connected device or associated user account. Requires an account manager, within two business days of receiving a complete device protection request, to terminate or disable the perpetrator's access to the connected device or user account, or to inform the survivor, in a clear and conspicuous manner, of any methods to reset the device to factory settings or a similar state that removes all account holders, as provided. Requires the account manager to keep all information provided by survivor confidential then to dispose of that information. The account manager is prohibited from notifying the perpetrator of the access termination.

The findings and declarations state:

(a) According to the National Domestic Violence Hotline, almost one-half of all women and men in the United States have experienced psychological aggression by an intimate partner in their lifetime.

(b) According to the National Network to End Domestic Violence, 97 percent of domestic violence programs report that abusers misuse technology to stalk, harass, and control victims.

(c) An increase in the use of technology has become a concerning tool in cases of domestic violence and harassment. Perpetrators leverage smartphone

applications to remotely control everyday objects to exercise control over, monitor, and abuse their victims.

(d) Domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, sexual assault, human trafficking, and related crimes are life-threatening issues and have lasting and harmful effects on individuals, families, and entire communities.

(e) Survivors often lack meaningful support and options when establishing independence from an abuser, including barriers such as financial insecurity and limited access to reliable communications tools to maintain essential connections with family, social safety networks, employers, and support services.

(f) Laws related to the use of technology can play a public interest role in the promotion of safety, life, and property with respect to these types of violence and abuse. Independent access to devices can assist survivors in establishing security and autonomy.

(g) Safeguards within tech-based services can serve a role in preventing abuse and narrowing the digital divide experienced by survivors of abuse.

[Adds B&P 22948.30, 22948.31, 22948.32, 22948.33, 22948.34, 22948.35, 22948.36, 22948.37; amends Fam. C. 6320]

SB 258 – Crimes: Rape (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Amends P.C. 261(a)(1) (rape of a person incapable of giving legal consent because of a mental disorder or developmental or physical disability) to eliminate the spousal exception. Adds criteria for determining whether the victim is not capable of giving legal consent and adds a definition for “incapable, because of a mental disorder or developmental or physical disability, of giving legal consent.” [Amends P.C. 261]

SB 733 – Sexual assault forensic evidence: testing (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Requires a sexual assault victim to be age 18 to be able to prevent medical evidence (e.g., a rape kit) from being tested. Under current law, a sexual assault victim of any age may request that evidence not be tested (which leaves young victims vulnerable to being pressured or threatened by family members or perpetrators to

request that evidence not be tested). Adds that a victim who has requested that a kit not be tested may later request testing, regardless of whether a report is made to law enforcement. [Amends P.C. 680]

SEXUALLY VIOLENT PREDATORS

SB 380 – Sexually violent predators: transitional housing facilities: report (*Effective October 10, 2025*): Requires the Department of State Hospitals to conduct an analysis of the benefits and feasibility of establishing transitional housing facilities for the conditional release program, and to submit the findings of the analysis in a report to the Legislature on or before January 1, 2027. [Adds W&I 6608.9]

STALKING

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[Adds B&P 22948.30, 22948.31, 22948.32, 22948.33, 22948.34, 22948.35, 22948.36, 22948.37; amends Fam. C. 6320]

SB 221 – Crimes: stalking (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Expands the meaning of “credible threat” in P.C. 646.9 (stalking), to include threats to a person’s pet, service animal, emotional support animal, or horse. [Amends P.C. 646.9]

THEFT

AB 476 – Metal theft (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Requires junk dealers and recyclers to include additional information in the written record, including the time and amount paid for each sale or purchase of junk made, and the name of the employee handling the transaction. Revises the type of information required to be included in the description of the items purchased or sold. Requires the statement indicating ownership or the name of the person from whom the seller obtained the junk from to be signed.

Expands the list of materials and items subject to those provisions to include, among other things, items reasonably recognizable as streetlights and related equipment, and increases the maximum amount of the criminal fine to \$5,000. [Amends B&P 21606, 21609.1; amends P.C. 496a, 496e]

THREATS

SB 19 – Crimes: threats (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Creates new P.C. 422.3, a felony / misdemeanor crime that prohibits willfully threatening by any means (including an image or threat posted on the internet), to commit a crime that will result in death or great bodily injury to another person or persons at a daycare, school, university, workplace, house of worship, or medical facility with the specific intent that the statement is to be taken as a threat, even if there is no intent to actually carry it out, if the threat causes a person to reasonably be in sustained fear. [Adds P.C. 422.3]

TRUANCY

AB 461 – Truancy (*Effective January 1, 2026*): More Help Not Less Act of 2025. Repeals P.C. 270.1, the misdemeanor crime of a parent of a chronically truant child failing to reasonably supervise and encourage school attendance. [Repeals P.C. 270.1]

VEHICLES

AB 366 – Ignition interlock devices (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Extends the laws governing ignition interlock devices to 2033. (NOTE: The existing law was due to sunset effective January 1, 2026.) [Amends Veh. C. 13352, 13352.1, 13352.4, 13353.3, 13353.4, 13353.5, 13353.6, 13353.75, 13386, 13390, 23103.5, 23247, 23573, 23575, 23575.3, 23576, 23597]

AB 390 – Vehicles: highway safety (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Expands Veh. C. 21809 (the “slow down, move over law”) to add highway maintenance vehicles displaying amber warning lights, and stationary vehicles displaying flashing hazard lights or another warning device, including cones, flares, or retroreflective devices. [Amends Veh. C. 21809]

AB 435 – Vehicles: child passenger restraints (*Effective January 1, 2027*): Defines “properly restrained by a safety belt” to mean that the child, ward, or passenger meets the requirements of the 5-Step test, which includes that the child, ward, or passenger is sitting all the way back against the auto seat, the knees of the child, ward, or passenger bend over the edge of the auto seat, the shoulder belt snugly crosses the center of the child, ward, or passenger’s chest and shoulder, not the child, ward, or passenger’s neck, the lap belt is as low as possible and is touching the child, ward, or passenger’s thighs, and the child, ward, or passenger can stay seated like this for the whole trip. [Amends, repeals, and adds Veh. C. 27315, 27318, 27360.5, 27363]

AB 544 – Electric bicycles: required equipment (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Requires an electric bicycle during all hours to be equipped with a red reflector or a solid or flashing red light with a built-in reflector on the rear that is visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear when directly in front of lawful upper beams of headlamps on a motor vehicle. Permits minors cited for not wearing a helmet to complete the electric bicycle safety course developed by CHP in lieu of paying a fine. [Amends Veh. C. 21201, 21212]

AB 545 – Vehicles: electric bicycles (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Prohibits a person from selling an application that can modify the speed capability of an electronic bicycle. [Amends Veh. C. 24016]

AB 875 – Vehicle removal (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Creates new Veh. C. 22651.08 to authorize a peace officer to remove a class 3 electric bicycle being operated in violation of V.C. 21213(a), and to remove a vehicle with fewer than four wheels that does not meet the definition of an electric bicycle under specified circumstances. [Adds Veh. C. 22651.08]

AB 965 – Vehicles: electric bicycles (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Adds new Veh. C. 21212.5, which is the infraction crime of selling a class 3 electric bicycle to a person under age 16. Punishable by a fine of up to \$250. [Adds Veh. C. 21212.5]

AB 1085 – License plates: obstruction or alteration (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Amends Veh. C. 5201 to prohibit a shade or tint that obstructs or impairs the reading of a license plate by an electronic device. Amends Veh. C. 5201.1 to (1) prohibit the manufacturing of a device that is intended to obscure the reading of a license plate (selling such a device was already prohibited); and (2) increase the penalty for a violation from a fine of \$250 per item sold to a fine of \$1,000 per item sold or manufactured. [Amends Veh. C. 5201, 5201.1]

SB 586 – Off-Highway Electric Motorcycles (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Creates new Veh. C. 436.1 to add a definition of “off-highway electric motorcycle. [Amends P.C. 38010, 38012; adds Veh. C. 436.1]

VICTIMS/WITNESSES

AB 535 – Threatening a witness assisting the prosecution (*Effective January 1, 2026*): Clarifies elements included in P.C.136.1 that make it a crime to knowingly and maliciously prevent or dissuade, or attempt to prevent or dissuade, a witness or victim from either causing a complaint, indictment, information, or probation or parole violation to be sought and prosecuted, or assisting in the prosecution thereof. [NOTE: In *People v. Reynoza* (2024), the California Supreme Court ruled that under existing law, post-charging intimidation of a witness or victim does not constitute a crime

unless it is coupled with an effort to prevent initial charges from being filed. This interpretation left victims, particularly those in cases of domestic violence, human trafficking, and child exploitation, vulnerable to coercion and retaliation after a case is formally charged. AB 535 corrects this by clarifying that both pre- and post-charging intimidation of a victim or witness are violations of P.C. 136.1. [Amends P.C. 136.1]

AB 572 – Criminal procedure: interrogations

(Effective January 1, 2026): Requires every prosecutorial agency and law enforcement agency, by January 1, 2027, to maintain a policy requiring a peace officer or prosecuting attorney who initiates a formal interview to gather evidence related to a law enforcement incident resulting in a person's death or serious bodily injury by a peace officer to adhere to specified requirements, such as not using threats or deception; not fabricating evidence; and not making misleading statements. Sets forth requirements for interviewing the family members of the dead or injured person, such as telling the interviewee whether the person is dead or injured, informing the interviewee that there may or may not be an assessment of the conduct of the dead/injured person; and informing the interviewee that they may have a support person present. [Adds Gov't C. 7287]

AB 1363 – Protective orders: Wyland's Law

(Effective January 1, 2026): Subject to an appropriation by the Legislature, authorizes DOJ to establish, or contract with a vendor to establish, an automated protected person information and notification system to provide a petitioner or a protected person in a protective order case with automated access to information about their case. Requires a record demonstrating whether the superior court has fulfilled its transmission obligations or a record demonstrating receipt of information about a protective order to be open to public inspection and copying. [Adds Fam. C. 6380.5]

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