

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE

2025–26 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY JOURNAL

RECESS JOURNAL NO. 33

INTERIM STUDY RECESS

Assembly Chamber, Sacramento
Friday, December 12, 2025

Pursuant to the provisions of Joint Rule 59, the following Assembly Journal for the 2025–26 Regular Session was printed while the Assembly was in Interim Study Recess.

COMMUNICATIONS

The following communication was presented by the Speaker and ordered printed in the Journal:

December 10, 2025

The Honorable Monique Limón
Senate President pro Tempore
California State Senate
1021 O Street, Suite 8518
Sacramento, California

The Honorable Robert Rivas
Speaker
California State Assembly
1021 O Street, Suite 8330
Sacramento, California

Dear President pro Tempore Monique Limón and Speaker Robert Rivas:

Over the past seven years, we have tackled some of the state’s most significant problems and improved countless lives in this miraculous state, blessed and challenged by Mother Nature and enriched by ingenuity and hard work. As we begin another year arm-in-arm with the people of California, it’s time to accelerate our work to achieve a shared vision of stability, safety, and prosperity for all.

Together as partners, we expanded access to health care. We delivered record investments in public education, including a new grade, free school meals for all children, after-school for all, and tuition-free community colleges. We advanced the most ambitious job-creating clean energy agenda in the nation, expected to provide up to \$60 billion in utility bill rebates to California families for decades to come. We addressed the housing and homelessness crisis with unprecedented resources and local accountability. We created jobs while protecting working families, reduced crime, reformed our mental health care system, and launched an infrastructure building spree that will last for generations. We did this work side by side—as co-equal branches of government—with a shared belief in the California Dream.

At the start of my final year as Governor of this great state, it would be my honor to address the Legislature and all of California on these issues. Therefore, pursuant to Article V, Section 3 of the California Constitution, I am requesting the date of Thursday, January 8th, at 10:30 a.m., to deliver the State of the State Address before a joint session of the Legislature.

I am looking forward to another successful year of collaboration with the Legislature as we fight for opportunity, justice, and the preservation of democracy, always with the unflinching mission of lifting up every Californian.

Warm regards,

GAVIN NEWSOM

SPECIAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS

By unanimous consent, the following committees were permitted to meet:

Budget Subcommittee No. 3 on Education Finance, to convene jointly with the Committee on Education, on Wednesday, January 14, 2026, at 1:30 p.m., at 1021 O Street, Room 1100;

Budget Subcommittee No. 3 on Education Finance, to convene jointly with the Committee on Education, on Tuesday, February 10, 2026, at 9 a.m., in Room 447;

Labor and Employment, on Tuesday, January 13, 2026, at 9 a.m., in Room 447;

Utilities and Energy, on Wednesday, January 7, 2026, upon adjournment of the bill hearing, in Room 437;

Select Committee on CalFresh Enrollment and Nutrition, to convene jointly with the Committee on Human Services, on Wednesday, December 17, 2025, at 10 a.m., at Alameda City Hall, 2263 Santa Clara Ave., Alameda 94501.

REPORTS

The following letters of transmittal were presented by the Chief Clerk and ordered printed in the Journal:

California State Auditor

2025-601
December 11, 2025

*The Honorable Speaker of the Assembly
The Honorable Members of the Assembly
of the Legislature of California
State Capitol, Room 319
Sacramento, California*

Members of the Assembly: As required by Government Code section 8546.5, my office presents this report about statewide issues and state agencies that represent a high risk to the State or its residents. Our work to identify and address such high-risk statewide issues and agencies aims to enhance efficiency and effectiveness by focusing the State's resources on improving the delivery of services related to important programs or functions.

In this report, we conclude that the California Department of Social Services met our criteria to be designated as a high-risk agency, and we are adding it to the high-risk list. Because of recent changes to federal law, the State will soon be required to pay a portion of its CalFresh benefits. This cost, which could be as much as \$2.5 billion in federal fiscal year 2028, is based on California's payment error rate, which measures the accuracy of the State's eligibility and benefit determinations. We also describe updates to the seven existing high-risk state agencies and statewide issues that include the Employment Development Department, the State's management of federal COVID-19 funds, the State's financial reporting and accountability, the Department of Health Care Services, information security, the California Department of Technology, and water infrastructure and availability.

We will continue to monitor the risks we have identified in this report and the actions the State takes to address them. For example, our office has recently initiated more in-depth high-risk audits of Medi-Cal eligibility determinations and the State's financial reporting and accountability under the statutory authority provided by our state high-risk program. When the State's actions result in significant progress toward resolving or mitigating such risks, we will remove the high-risk designation according to our professional judgment.

Respectfully submitted,

GRANT PARKS
California State Auditor

Above report referred to the Committee on Human Services.

California State Auditor

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December 12, 2025

*The Honorable Speaker of the Assembly
The Honorable Members of the Assembly
of the Legislature of California
State Capitol, Room 319
Sacramento, California*

Members of the Assembly: The California State Auditor, as authorized by the California Whistleblower Protection Act, presents this report summarizing some of the investigations of alleged improper governmental activities that my office has recently completed. This report details five substantiated allegations involving several state agencies. Our investigations found waste, improper payments, misuse of state resources, and other improper governmental activities. Our findings include more than \$5 million that state agencies have either wasted, misused, or failed to report.

For instance, an agency wasted more than \$4.6 million on monthly service fees for thousands of mobile devices that went unused month after month and, in many cases, for more than two years. Agency management stated that it was unaware that the agency was paying for so many unused devices, but it had access to nonusage reports and invoices that should have identified the problem much sooner. Another case involves an agency that continued to pay an employee who was on extended leave and preparing for retirement for an additional 15 months beyond when his leave hours were fully depleted. The agency did not accurately track the leave hours the employee used and overpaid him more than \$170,000. In another example, an agency did not report approximately \$400,000 in taxable fringe housing benefits received by employees who rented state-owned housing at below market value. As a result, the affected employees may have significant unpaid tax liabilities.

State agencies must report to my office any corrective or disciplinary action taken in response to recommendations we have made. Their first reports are due within 60 days after we notify the agency or authority of the improper activity, and they continue to report monthly thereafter until they have completed corrective action.

Respectfully submitted,

GRANT PARKS
California State Auditor

Above report referred to the Committee on Labor and Employment.

ROBERT RIVAS, Speaker

RUSSELL C. TOMAS, Minute Clerk