



April 6, 2018

Legislative Deadlines

The next upcoming deadline for the California State Legislature will be Friday, April 27th. It is the last day for policy committees to hear and report to fiscal committees' fiscal bills introduced in their house.

Appointments

The Governor has appointed the following individuals to the State Board of Food and Agriculture: Donald Bransford (Colusa) of Bransford Farms (reappointed), Jeffery Huckaby (Bakersfield) of Grimmway Enterprises, and Frank Muller (Woodland) of Muller Ranch.

Commodities

[SB 965](#) (Mike McGuire, D-Healdsburg) would create the rules for the establishment of a California Cattle Council. If the bill passes, cattle producers would be given the opportunity to vote on whether to create a California Cattle Council. The assessment would be set at \$1 per head and that money would all stay in California for research, promotion, and education. Additionally, any producer who pays into the Council would be eligible to ask for a refund of their payments if they do not want to support the Council. The California Cattlemen's Association is sponsoring the legislation while the Pesticide Action Network of North America, Center for Food Safety, Organization for Competitive Markets, and the California News Publishers Association all oppose SB 965 because those groups don't want to see a California Cattle Council established in California, or, in the case of the News Publishers, don't want information held by the Council to be confidential. Farm Bureau supports SB 965 as a way to give cattle producers a choice as to whether they want to form and fund a Council. SB 965 passed out of the Senate Agriculture Committee this week with a 4-0 vote. *Staff contact: Noelle Cremers, ncremers@cfbf.com.*

Senate Agriculture Committee convened on Tuesday, April 3rd to hear [SB 1039](#) (Pan-D Sacramento) which would allow for ultra-filtered milk and milk products (which consists of filtering milk to change the quantities of milk solids like protein and lactose) to be sold in California. The Committee approved the bill on a 4-0 vote and the measure has been slated to be heard in Assembly Appropriations Committee in the forthcoming weeks. *Staff contact: Taylor Roschen, 916-446-4647, troschen@cfbf.com.*

Nutrition

Under [AB 1952](#) (Mayes-R San Bernardino), the State Departments of Social Services, Public Health, Education and Food and Agriculture would be required to create a plan to address hunger in California, including the utilization of food hubs at county fairgrounds and state-owned facilities to better facilitate the delivery of fresh produce to food insecure communities. The plan is required to be submitted to the Legislature by January 1, 2020 for further action. The measure would also require the UC, CSU and

community college systems to develop mechanism to allow CalFresh EBT cards to be used on California's campuses. *Staff contact: Taylor Roschen, 916-446-4647; troschen@cfbf.com.*

Water

The delisting or removal of a river or segment of a river from the national wild and scenic listing by the federal government would trigger state actions under [AB 2975](#) (Laura Friedman, D-Glendale). The measure would require the Secretary of the California Natural Resources Agency to take any necessary action to add the river or segment of a river to the state wild and scenic rivers system. The measure will be heard next week in the Assembly Natural Resources Committee. Farm Bureau and a coalition of agricultural organizations are opposed to the measure. *Staff contact: Danny Merkley, 916-446-4647; dmerkley@cfbf.com*

A measure that would circumvent the existing regulatory process for determining the water quality and safety of produced water for irrigation will be heard in the Assembly Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials Committee next week. [AB 2828](#) (Laura Friedman, D-Glendale) ignores years of work by farmers, landowners and agricultural irrigation districts, under the direction of the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board to conduct countless water quality and crop safety tests, all showing that produced water is a clean, safe and dependable water source. Farm Bureau, a coalition of agricultural organizations and irrigation districts are opposed to the measure. *Staff contact: Danny Merkley, 916-446-4647; dmerkley@cfbf.com*