



## Bill Analysis

Author: Seyarto, et al.

Sponsor:

Bill Number: SB 259

Related Bills: See Legislative  
History

Amended: June 14, 2023

### SUBJECT

Reports Submitted to Legislative Committees

### SUMMARY

Under the Government Code (GOV), this bill would require state agencies to post on their websites any report that they submit to a committee of the Legislature.

### RECOMMENDATION

No position.

### SUMMARY OF AMENDMENTS

The June 14, 2023, amendments removed a provision related to the type of report required to be posted on a state agency website and replaced it with the provisions discussed in this analysis.

### REASON FOR THE BILL

The reason for the bill is to require all reports submitted by a state agency to a Legislative Committee to be posted on the state agency's internet website.

### ANALYSIS

Under the GOV, this bill would modify the article related to reports required or requested by law to the Legislature. State or local agencies would also be required to submit any report identified in the Legislative Analyst's Supplemental Report of the Budget Act to a committee of the Legislature.

This bill would also require the Legislative Counsel to provide a link to the list of state agency and local agency reports that are available to the public in electronic form.

Additionally, this bill makes other nonsubstantive technical changes.

Amended June 14, 2023

*Effective/Operative Date*

This bill would be effective and operative January 1, 2024.

*Federal/State Law*

*Federal Law*

No comparable provision in federal law.

*State Law*

Current state law, GOV section 9795, specifies the form and method for a state or local agency to submit any report required or requested by law to the Members of either the Senate or Assembly. A report submitted by a state agency is required to be posted on the agency's internet website.

In addition, current state law requires state agency websites to meet accessibility requirements.

*Implementation Considerations*

None noted.

*Technical Considerations*

None noted.

*Policy Considerations*

None noted.

**LEGISLATIVE HISTORY**

AB 3162 (Oberholte, 2019/2020) would have required all state agencies, including the Franchise Tax Board (FTB), to post on their internet website, any report they submit to a committee of the Legislature. AB 3162 did not pass out of the Assembly by the constitutional deadline.

SB 937 (Hill, 2019/2020) would have under the GOV, allowed state agencies, including the FTB, to temporarily remove public documents from its internet website when a justifiable impediment exists that prevents a document from being compliant with the applicable accessibility requirements. SB 937 did not pass out of the Senate by the constitutional deadline.

Amended June 14, 2023

## **PROGRAM BACKGROUND**

On July 1, 2019, the FTB launched a new website design in compliance with California GOV sections 7405 and 11135. GOV section 7405 requires that State of California government agency websites must meet accessibility requirements.

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

The department's costs to implement this bill have yet to be determined. As the bill moves through the legislative process, costs will be determined.

## **ECONOMIC IMPACT**

### *Revenue Estimate*

This bill would not impact state income or franchise tax revenue.

## **LEGAL IMPACT**

None noted.

## **APPOINTMENTS**

None noted.

## **SUPPORT/OPPOSITION**

The July 3, 2023, Senate Floor analysis of SB 259 included the following support:

### *Support*

California Common Cause; and Southern California Contractors Association.

### *Opposition*

None received.

Amended June 14, 2023

## **ARGUMENTS**

The July 3, 2023, Senate Floor analysis, included the following arguments in support and opposition.

### *Proponents*

The California Common Cause writes that,

“The Legislature requires state agencies to issue reports on topics or on the implementation of various policies. Historically, legislation has specified where these reports must be sent, such as to the applicable legislative policy committee. These reports provide crucial information about the implementation of programs, serving as important oversight tools. However, they are inconsistently easily available to the public. A member of the public may have to already know a report is required in order to request it, instead of it being proactively available online.”

## **LEGISLATIVE CONTACT**

[FTBLegislativeServices@ftb.ca.gov](mailto:FTBLegislativeServices@ftb.ca.gov)