



Alcohol Policy

AB 920 (Aguiar Curry) - Distilled Spirits DTC – Extension of COVID-19 Regulatory Relief Privileges: This bill will allow craft distiller (defined as producing 150,000 gallons or less) to ship, in California, 2.25 liters per customer per day until 2024. **The bill was signed by the governor.**

AB 1617 (Stone) – Wine Label Requirements Santa Cruz Mountains: Would require any wine bottled on or after Jan. 1, 2024, labeled with an American Viticultural Area established pursuant to federal law that is located entirely within the “Santa Cruz Mountains” viticultural area to bear the designation “Santa Cruz Mountains” on the label. **The bill was held in the Senate Governmental Organizations Committee at the request of the Santa Cruz Mountains Wine Association, as they had a few members with concerns.**

AB 2301 (Wood) – Beer Self-Distribution: This bill allows a brewery to distribute directly to retail licensees under common ownership within five miles of the production premises. Current law limits this privilege to contiguous properties. **The bill was signed by the governor.**

AB 2307 (Berman) – Beer Duplicate Licenses: This bill will expand from 6 to 8, with certain limitations, the number of duplicate licenses allowed for beer manufacturers. **The bill was signed by the governor.**

AB 2971 (GO Committee) – Invitation-only Events: This bill extends, until Jan. 1, 2028, the ability of manufacturers of distilled spirits and winegrowers to provide entertainment, food, and distilled spirits, wine or non-alcoholic beverages free of charge to consumers at an invitation-only event in connection with the sale of their products. **The bill was signed by the governor.**

SB 620 (Allen) – DTC for Spirits: With strong opposition from distributors and their unions, this bill was significantly amended to limit DTC privileges to distilled spirit manufacturers producing 150,000 gallons or less with certain restrictions, including a prohibition on the use of fulfillment houses and a prohibition on the use of common carriers using contracted delivery drivers. While this code section is specific to distilled spirits and does not directly impact wine DTC, the limit on common carriers had the potential to lead to certain carriers exiting the alcohol delivery market in California, setting a bad precedent for our advocacy around the U.S. to allow for the use of fulfillment houses and eliminate capacity caps on DTC wine. As a result, **Wine Institute opposed the bill. The bill was subsequently tabled by Assembly Governmental Organization Chair and died.**

SB 930 (Weiner) – 4 a.m. Alcohol Sales: SB 930 would have authorized the ABC to create a pilot program, beginning Jan. 1, 2025, and before Jan. 2, 2028, to issue an additional hours license to an on-sale licensee (generally restaurants, bars, taverns, and nightclubs) in specified cities that would allow the selling, giving, or purchasing of alcoholic beverages at the licensed premises between the hours of 2 a.m. and 4 a.m. **The bill failed passage on the Assembly Floor.**

SB 1198 (McGuire) – DTC for Beer: Under current law, breweries in California can ship DTC to California consumers. However, current law does not afford the same privileges to out of state breweries. Concerned with potential constitutional challenges, SB 1198 attempted to create a DTC statute for beer to afford both in state and out of state breweries the same DTC privileges. Wine Institute staff watched this bill closely and

engaged with the author and sponsor to prevent the same issues that emerged in SB 620. **Nonetheless, the bill was tabled by Assembly Governmental Organization Chair and died.**

Wildfire Policy

SB 926 (Dodd) - Prescribed Fire Claims Fund: This bill creates a Prescribed Fire Liability Pilot Program to support coverage for losses caused by a prescribed fire that escapes. Current concerns regarding liability have limited the use of prescribed fire. This bill implements a program to utilize the \$20 million provided in last year's adopted budget for this purpose. **The bill was signed by the governor.**

AB 2213 (Aguiar-Curry) – Smoke Exposure Research Funding: Wine Institute sponsored this legislation to create an advisory committee at CDFA made up of winegrape grower and winery representatives to recommend what research projects should receive funding. **Unfortunately, the bill was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.**

Environmental Policy

SB 260 (Wiener) – Climate Corporate Accountability Act: This bill would have required United States-based partnerships, corporations, limited liability companies, and other business entities with total annual revenues in excess of \$1 billion and that do business in California to publicly disclose greenhouse gas emissions to an emissions registry selected by CARB. **The bill failed passage on the Assembly floor.**

SB 856 (Dodd) – Wild Pigs: Prior to passage of this bill, the law required landowners to obtain a depredation permit from the Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) before taking wild pigs that are damaging their property. Landowners and their agents did not need to have a hunting license to take pigs if they had a depredation permit. State law also required licensed hunters to obtain a tag for each wild pig they take. This bill prohibits DFW from limiting the number of pigs that can be taken with a depredation permit and switches the hunting tag requirement to a validation, which would only require a hunter to obtain one validation for an unlimited number of pigs. The bill also prohibits the release of wild pigs in the state, unless it is on an existing contained hunting preserve. **The bill was signed by the governor. Wine Institute supported** the bill along with CAWG, the Napa Valley Vintners, and other agricultural organizations.

SB 880 (Laird) – Water Diversion Monitoring: This bill indefinitely extends the law allowing water diverters to become certified through courses offered by UC Cooperative Extension in order to install and implement methods of measurement. These provisions of law would have expired in 2023. **Wine Institute supported the bill which was signed into law by the governor.**

AB 1279 (Muratsuchi) – The California Climate Crisis Act: This bill requires California to achieve net zero greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 2045 and reduce anthropogenic GHG emissions to at least 85 percent below 1990 levels by 2045. Wine Institute joined a coalition of business and agricultural organizations in opposing this bill, which was **signed by the governor.**

AB 1738 (Boerner Horvath) – Building Standards: Electric Vehicle Charging Stations: This bill requires new mandatory building standards for the installation of electric vehicle charging stations when buildings are constructed or retrofitted. **The bill was signed by the governor.**

AB 2075 (Ting) - Electric Vehicle Charging Stations: This bill requires the California Energy Commission to adopt electric vehicle charging standards for incorporation into California's building design and construction standards. **The bill was signed by the governor.**

AB 2106 (Robert Rivas) – Water Quality Permits: This bill would have required the State Water Resources Control Board to evaluate California's stormwater program and report on the state's progress towards achieving beneficial uses and compliance with water quality standards as well as develop a new permit for stormwater discharges. The bill also would have required the State Water Board to make recommendations to the legislature on how to ensure permitting of stormwater discharges protects and supports the attainment of beneficial uses and compliance with water quality objectives. **The bill was vetoed by the governor primarily due to the significant costs it would create.**

AB 2133 (Quirk) – Greenhouse Gas Emissions Limit: AB 2133 would have mandated the reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by at least 55% below 1990 levels by 2030. Current law requires GHG reductions of 40% below 1990 levels by 2030. Wine Institute joined a large coalition of business and agricultural groups in opposition. **The bill failed passage on the Assembly floor.**

AB 2201 (Bennett) – Groundwater Extraction Facility Permits: This bill would have prohibited a water extraction facility in a critically overdrafted groundwater basin from extracting water without a valid groundwater extraction permit issued by the groundwater sustainability agency (GSA). As part of the approval process, the well permitting agency would have been required to post well permit applications online for at least 30 days prior to approving a permit. These requirements would have made it more difficult for many agricultural entities to extract groundwater in these basins. Several agricultural organizations opposed the bill and **Wine Institute joined them in opposition. The bill was not brought up for a final vote and died on the Assembly Floor.**

AB 2550 (Arambula) - Air Districts in Nonattainment of Ambient Air Quality Standards: This bill would have required the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to adopt regulations to bring the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District into attainment with state and federal ambient air quality standards. **Wine Institute opposed the bill, which was subsequently vetoed by the governor**

AB 2649 (C. Garcia) - Natural Carbon Sequestration and Resilience: This bill would have set state policy to remove at least 60 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent annually before Dec. 31, 2030, and 75 million metric tons by Dec. 31, 2035, through the implementation of natural carbon sequestration programs on natural, working and urban lands. **The bill was held by the Senate Appropriations Committee and is now dead.**

Recycling Policy

SB 38 (Wieckowski) – Beverage Container Recycling Program: This bill requires CalRecycle to develop a system or process to address the issue of glass contamination for purposes of the Bottle Bill. **The bill was signed by the governor.**

SB 54 (Allen) – Plastic Pollution Producer Responsibility Act: This bill was passed by the Legislature and signed by the Governor as an alternative to a plastics recycling ballot measure that would have placed significant costs and restrictions on the producers of single-use plastics. After SB 54 was **signed d by the Governor**, the proponents of the initiative officially withdrew the plastics proposal from the ballot. SB 54 creates an extended producer responsibility program for all material types (plastics, cardboard, metal, and glass) with the goal of reducing waste and achieving designated recycling goals. Notably, SB 54 exempts

containers regulated under the State's Bottle Bill program, thus wine containers will be exempt due to the passage of SB 1013 (see below).

SB 1013 (Atkins and Dodd) – Wine and Spirits in Bottle Bill: This bill adds wine and spirits containers into California's Bottle Bill program, beginning Jan. 1, 2024. Further, it exempts wine and spirits products from the requirement to label their containers for the program until July 1, 2025. The bill allows wine and spirits companies to self-certify compliance with those labeling requirements. The bill authorizes CalRecycle to approve the use of a QR code to meet container labeling requirements. Further, for new container types entering the program (i.e., pouches, bag-in-box) the bill provides for a special processing fee of .5 cents/container and exemption from post-consumer recycled content requirements until Jan. 1, 2026. The bill set the redeemable deposit for those containers at 25 cents/container. Additionally, the bill exempts containers used in tasting rooms from the bill's requirements and provides that wineries are not required to accept empty containers for redemption. Finally, the bill contains numerous provisions meant to both encourage the opening of additional redemption centers and the efficient recycling of glass beverage containers. **Wine Institute supported the bill. The bill was signed by the governor.**

Labor Policy

AB 857 (Kalra) – Employer Notifications and Disclosures: This bill would have required an agricultural employer to provide H-2A workers with notice describing workplace rights. Under the bill, the notification would have required information explaining when travel time is compensable, and unfortunately, the required information is not settled law. This provision was viewed by the agricultural coalition as trying to influence future litigation that goes beyond travel time pay requirements for H-2A workers. **The bill was vetoed by the governor.**

SB 1044 (Durazo) – State of Emergency Retaliation: This bill prohibits an employer, in the event of an emergency condition, from taking or threatening adverse action against any employee for refusing to report to, or leave, a workplace within the affected area if the employee has a reasonable belief that the workplace is unsafe due to the emergency. The bill also prohibits an employer from preventing any employee from accessing the employee's mobile device for mobile telecommunications to use for emergency purposes. **The bill was signed by the governor.**

SB 1162 (Limon) – Pay Data Reporting: This bill expands the requirements for a private employer that has 100 or more employees or labor contractors to report pay data to the Department of Fair Employment and Housing (DFEH). Additionally, the bill requires an employer to provide a pay scale for an open position in a job posting. The bill was signed by the Governor. **Wine Institute joined the CalChamber Job Killer coalition in opposition, however CalChamber removed the Job Killer designation based on the amendments to eliminate the public disclosure requirements.**

AB 2183 (Stone) – Agricultural Labor Relations: This bill allows for ballot card voting (card check) for authorizing union representation at an agricultural business. The bill was signed by the Governor despite his expressed concerns with the provisions of the bill. However, in signing the bill the Governor announced an agreement with UFW and the California Labor Federation to pass legislation next year that would cap the number of card-check petitions over the next five years and allow ALRB to protect worker confidentiality and safety under the new process. **Wine Institute had joined an agricultural coalition and the CalChamber Job Killer coalition in opposition.**

AB 2188 (Quirk) – Cannabis Use: This bill makes it unlawful for an employer to discriminate against a person in hiring, termination or any term or condition of employment, or otherwise penalize a person, if

the discrimination is based upon the person's use of cannabis off the job and away from the workplace. **The bill was signed by the governor.**

AB 2243 (E. Garcia) – Heat Illness and Wildfire Smoke: This bill requires Cal/OSHA, before Jan. 1, 2025, to submit to the standards board a rulemaking proposal to revise the heat illness standard to include an ultrahigh heat (105 degrees Fahrenheit or higher) standard for employees in outdoor places of employment. The bill similarly requires a rulemaking proposal to revise the wildfire smoke standard to reduce the existing air quality index threshold to 301 for PM2.5 at which point control by respiratory protective equipment becomes mandatory. **The bill was signed by the governor.**

AB 2693 (Reyes) – COVID-19 Exposure Notifications: This bill requires employers, until Jan. 1, 2024, to notify employees of potential COVID-19 exposure by prominently displaying in the workplace a notice of COVID-19 case-related information for a minimum of 15 calendar days. **The bill was signed by the governor.**

Workers' Compensation Policy

SB 1127 (Atkins) – Liability Presumptions: This bill reduces the time from 90 to 75 days for a workers' compensation claim to be rejected. If it is not, it will be presumed to be compensable. The bill also creates significant penalties for the unreasonable rejection of a claim by an employer. **The bill was signed by the governor.**

AB 1751 (Daly) – COVID-19 Presumptions: This bill extends until Jan. 1, 2024, the provisions whereby it is presumed for purposes of workers' compensation coverage that an employee contracted COVID-19 in the workplace if there is an outbreak in the workplace (defined as three or more cases in a designated period). **The bill was signed by the governor.**

Tax policy

SB 518 (Laird) – Winery Excise Tax Data: This bill provides the Board of Equalization (BOE) with express statutory authority to release winegrower excise tax data in a manner similar to their historical practice. The bill also allows a winegrower to prohibit the release of their tax information if they choose. **Wine Institute sponsored this measure. The bill was signed by the governor.**

AB 1951 (Grayson) – Manufacturing Sales and Use Tax Credit: Under existing law, the partial sales tax exemption for manufacturing or research-and-development equipment purchases currently is limited to 3.9375 percent. Under AB 1951, taxpayers would have received a complete sales tax exemption for the purchase of manufacturing or R&D equipment. **Wine Institute supported the bill. The bill was vetoed by the Governor due to its financial impact upon local governments.**

Cannabis Policy

AB 2210 (Quirk) – Cannabis and Alcohol Sales: This bill authorizes the Department of Cannabis Control to issue a temporary event license to a cannabis retail licensee authorizing onsite cannabis retail and consumption at an event held at a venue that is licensed by the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control pursuant to the Alcoholic Beverage Control Act. The ABC licensee must surrender their ABC license for the day(s) when the Department of Cannabis Control licensed event takes place. **The bill was signed by the governor.**