

Memorandum

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To: DEPUTY DISTRICT DIRECTORS FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL

Date: January 18, 2007

File: EMO

From: KELLY C. DUNLAP 
Chief
Environmental Management Office
Division of Environmental Analysis

Subject: **California Environmental Legislation – 2005-2006** Session

The 2005-2006 two-year session of the California Legislature is complete, and several of the environmental bills signed into law by the Governor in 2006 have the potential to affect the California Department of Transportation's (Department) work. Attached to this memo is a summary of the newly chaptered bills, with web addresses where additional information can be found. The summary includes environmental bills that are expected to impact Department, as well as a list of environmental bills that will not directly affect the Department, but are included for informational purposes.

In addition, one of the bills from the last session that was of particular interest to the Division, Senate Bill 1395, was vetoed by the Governor. Senate Bill 1395 would have amended the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) to require the Lead Agency, when exempting railroad grade separation or specified emergency projects from CEQA, to provide written notification, within 10 days of the determination, to all Native American tribes identified by the Native American Heritage Commission as having an interest in the project area. Upon request by a Native American tribe, the Lead Agency would consult with the tribe, unless consultation would directly impede the prevention of an emergency. For bill text and additional information, please see http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/pub/05-06/bill/sen/sb_1351-1400/sb_1395_bill_20060907_enrolled.html.

If you have any questions regarding this memorandum or its attachment, please contact me at (916) 651-8164, or Maria Sosa of my staff at (916) 653-4708.

Attachment