

AB 75

Fact Sheet

Kindergarten-Community Colleges Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2022

Background

In 2016, California voters passed a statewide School Bond (Proposition 51). Funds from Prop. 51 are currently fully reserved. As a result of over subscription, the Office of Public School Construction (OPSC) created a 'wait list.'

Presently there is over \$3 billion worth of modernization and new construction projects applications on the 'wait list' awaiting matching funds. AB 75 will put on the ballot in 2022 another statewide school facility bond worth \$12 billion in general obligation bonds to fund projects on the 'wait list' and future needs.

If passed by the voters, AB 75 will continue funding one of the most successful School Facility Infrastructure Programs in the country that began in 1998. Specifically, this bond will allocate much needed matching funds for:

- New Construction
- Modernization
- Replacement of Facilities older than 75 years
- Remediation of Lead in Water
- Charter School Facilities
- Career Technical Education (CTE) programs
- Supplemental Grant for expansion of core facilities that are too small
- Infrastructure upgrades for expanded broadband
- Interim Housing Assistance during disasters
- Assistance for Small School Districts

Expedited Access to Matching Funds Requirement

AB 75 requires the Department of General Services (DGS) to process all applications received on and after an unspecified date within 90 days and present the applications to the SAB within 120 days in date order received.

Additional Support for Districts

Increases amount of matching funds a District qualifies for based on a district's gross bonding capacity per enrollment and a district's unduplicated pupil percentage (UPP).

Establishes new funding for health and safety projects due to unacceptable risk in the event of a seismic event and threat to the health and safety of pupils.

Difference between AB 75 and Proposition 13

The last bond on the state ballot was Proposition 13, which received 47% of the votes on March 3, 2020. This was the first time since 1994 that voters rejected a state school facilities bond. AB 75 does not include the following provisions which were included in Prop 13 (2020) which was rejected by voters. There is no waiver of developer fees for multifamily housing near transit, no suspension of Level 3 developer fees, no funding for UCs or CSUs, no deletion of funding in date order, and no expansion of local bonding capacity.

YES on AB 75 for Improved Student Learning

Studies have found a positive relationship between the condition of school facilities and student achievement. There are significant student improvements in standardized test scores, attendance rates, and student effort following attendance at a new or modernized school facility.

Facility Upgrades for Student Success & Safety is High

The CDE estimates that approximately 30% of the state's K-12 classrooms are at least 50 years old and 10% are 70 years old. In addition to health and safety and normal wear and tear, schools need to be updated to meet 21st century educational needs and environmental efficiencies.

Arguments in Support of AB 75: Pass a Resolution Now

The California School Boards Association states, "... the COVID-19 pandemic has placed a dramatic burden on school facilities. Access to safe, clean, and functional classrooms will be essential as schools reopen. To allow for social distancing and to meet safety requirements, schools will need to adjust how they currently use their physical space, clean and disinfect school buildings, and improve ventilation and air quality. As a result, significant construction, upgrades, and repairs are needed to create larger classrooms, improve ventilation systems, and reduce the risk of transmission in shared spaces. Students deserve to be in safe, healthy, and sustainable environments. ... This bill alleviates the financial burden on both the institutions and students, while also constructing facilities that reflect the needs of the 21st century students. AB 75 is a needed measure to ensure that students are housed in facilities that meet their educational need."