

# California Agricultural Land Equity Task Force

ASSEMBLY BILL (AB) 524 SUBCOMMITTEE

APRIL 18, 2025 | 3 – 5 p.m.



# Participation Guidelines



**Share,  
Listen, Learn**



**Respect Different  
Perspectives**



**Stay on Point**

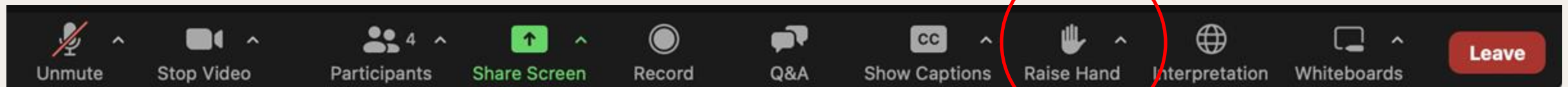


# Public Comment Process

- Complete form at [sgc.ca.gov/meetings-events](https://sgc.ca.gov/meetings-events)
- Separate form for each item
- Listen for your name and “raise your hand” on Zoom
- Staff will unmute your microphone
- Please adhere to **two-minute** time limit

# Zoom Tips

- All participants are **muted** upon entry.
  - You will be unmuted when it is your time to speak.
  - Please remember to mute yourself after speaking.
- Cameras are optional.
- Use “Raise Hand” feature during public comment periods.



# Agenda Review

- Welcome
- AB 524 Discussion
- Working Session
  - Consider options for Task Force engagement with the legislation
  - Assign follow-up tasks and deadlines
- General Public Comment



# **Assembly Bill 524**

## **Overview & Discussion**

# AB 524 Overview

## Bill Summary:

- Create Farmland Access and Conservation for Thriving Communities Program.
- Provide financial and technical assistance to support agricultural land acquisition and protection.
- DOC provide financial assistance to qualified entities to acquire agricultural lands to transfer or provide long-term leases to qualified farmer participants.
- DOC may contract with nonprofits to administer program.
- DOC to resource members of the California Agricultural Land Equity Task Force to ensure proper oversight over the development of the program.

# AB 524 Overview

## Definitions:

### "Qualified Entity:"

- Nonprofits
- Public agencies
- Tribal governments
- Tribal entities
- Agricultural land trusts
- Community land trusts

### "Qualified Farmer Participant:"

"...a farm enterprise whose beneficial owners are beginning farmers or ranchers, or socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers, and that commits to using practices, methodologies, and techniques that improve soil health, build biodiversity, conservation, and long-term sustainability in the production of agricultural crops to be sold in commerce or distributed."



The background of the slide features a scenic landscape. In the foreground, there are green plants and sunflowers. In the background, there are rolling hills under a clear sky.

# **Public Comment**

re: AB 524 Discussion

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# **Working Session**

# Working Session

## Discussion:

- How would you like to proceed and/or engage with the legislation?



# Working Session

## Option for Task Force Engagement:

- **Position Letter** – use to express support for or opposition to a bill before heard by committee
- Due April 23 for April 30 hearing

# Working Session

## Discussion:

- Confirm next steps and assignments, as applicable.

# Summarize, Action Items, Next Steps

- Review of Action Items and follow up items
- Decide on next meeting + meeting schedule
- Report-back to Task Force on November 13/14
- Meeting Notes, Recording, and Materials posted to:

<https://sgc.ca.gov/meetings/caletf/>



# **Public Comment**

re: Working Session



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# **General Public Comment**

# Public Comment Process

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# Upcoming Meetings

- **Full Task Force Meeting:** May 14 & 15 | Susanville & Virtual
- **Community Outreach:** May 29 (Thursday) | 3 – 5 p.m.
- **Land Access, Acquisition, and Ancestral Land Return:** June 4 (Wednesday) | 2:30 – 4 p.m.
- **Land Tenure:** June 18 (Wednesday) | 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
- **Sustaining Natural and Cultural Resources:** June 23 (Monday) | 1 – 3 p.m.
- **AB 524:** June 25 (Wednesday) | 11 – 12:30 p.m.
- **Grants & Resources:** June 27 (Friday) | 1 – 3 p.m.

Meeting Notes, Recording, and Materials posted to:

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**Thank You!**