

California Agricultural Land Equity Task Force Virtual AB 524 Subcommittee Meeting Summary: June 25, 2025

Meeting Called to Order

Facilitator Wylie started the meeting at 11:06 a.m.

Welcome and Housekeeping

Facilitator Wylie provided housekeeping information for all meeting participants. Slides and materials presented during the meeting are available on the California Strategic Growth Council [\(SGC\) website](#).

Roll Call

Roll call was conducted by the facilitator. Members present:

- Irene de Barraicua
- Nathaniel Brown (joined at 11:31 am)
- James Nakahara
- Liya Schwartzman
- Qi Zhou

Members absent:

- Lawrence Harlan
- Doria Robinson

Quorum was established.

Staff present:

- Camille Frazier, SGC
- Tessa Salzman, SGC
- Caleb Swanson, SGC
- Meagan Wylie, Sacramento State

Action: Approval of Summary

Approval of the April 18, 2025 meeting summary.

- Motion to approve made by member Zhou.

- Motion seconded by member Nakahara.
- Motion passed (4-0-3).

Public Comment:

None.

Working Session

Caleb Swanson provided a brief overview of AB 524 developments since April, including newly added co-authors, bill amendments, and a legislative timeline. The bill is currently set to be considered by the Senate Agriculture, with a July 18 deadline for advancement. Following summer recess, August 29 is the last day for the Senate Appropriations Committee to meet and report bills for consideration by the full Senate.

Facilitator Wylie reminded the group that the Task Force's position letter is not automatically shared with all legislative committees. Members considered potential next steps:

- Members generally agreed to repurpose the previously submitted Subcommittee position letter, submitted April 22, 2025 to the California State Assembly Committee on Agriculture, with minor updates to reflect current legislative status and to reinforce the desire for future engagement.
- Members discussed ways to strengthen language in the letter to affirm the Task Force's interest in supporting program development and implementation, and future collaboration with the Department of Conservation.
- Members recognized the value in sending an updated position letter to both the Senate Agriculture Committee and subsequently (assuming passage), the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Proposed Edits:

- Modify language in third paragraph, second sentence to state: We understand that the bill as written calls for the involvement of the Task Force, and we look forward to ~~exploring ways the Task Force can support the Department of Conservation in developing the proposed program~~ supporting and developing the proposed program in coordination with the Department of Conservation.

Action Taken:

- Motion to revise and resubmit the position letter to both Senate committees was called by Member Zhou and seconded by Member Nakahara.
- Motion passed (5-0-2).
- Liya Schwartzman will sign the letter for the Senate Agriculture Committee on behalf of the Subcommittee. Qi Zhou will sign for submission to the Senate Appropriations Committee.
- Staff will finalize revisions and coordinate submission with the respective Subcommittee member.

Public Comment:

None.

Facilitator Wylie summarized action items and next steps and highlighted upcoming meetings.

General Public Comment:

None.

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.