

# Law Summary

**Senate Bill 695**  
**Transportation: Climate**  
**Resiliency: Projects of Statewide**  
**and Regional Significance**

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# SB 695 - Transportation: Climate Resiliency: Projects of Statewide and Regional Significance

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## Summary

SB 695 is a bill that aims to make changes to the existing criteria accounted for when highways and transportation infrastructure are planned, built, designed, operated, maintained, and regulated to ensure climate disasters will impact transportation as little as possible. The State Highway Management System (SHMS) and the Caltrans' Strategic Plan assess the State's needs, investments, performance and objectives with district-level analysis of at-risk transportation assets.

This bill retains the SHMS and Caltrans' Strategic Plan while also designating a statewide list of significant highway and transportation infrastructure projects that are to be prioritized in preparing for extreme weather-related events. The list will be compiled by the California Transportation Commission (CTC) and the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA) who must work in consultation with Caltrans.

## General Purpose of the New Law

SB 695 will increase public safety and environmental hazard prevention measures for transportation in response to the increase of climate change-related disasters. Major roadways commonly used for evacuations, water storage and drinking water in high-risk areas, and electric grids across the state will be included in all climate-resilient focused projects to make a safer, more reliable California.

SB 695 will maintain California's focus on cost-effective projects that are eco-friendly, accessible, reliable, and safe.

## What the Law Does

- **Enhances Climate-Resilient Infrastructure:** The state shall strengthen climate-resilient infrastructure, including expanded water storage capacity, improved access to safe drinking water, and enhanced flood-mitigation systems.
- **Improves Trade Corridors:** The bill shall support the development of efficient trade corridors to facilitate the movement of goods and agricultural produce.
- **Upgrades Electric Grid Infrastructure:** The state shall implement improvements to electric grid infrastructure to increase system reliability and climate adaptability.
- **Advances Climate-Related Safety:** The bill shall promote measures that increase public safety related to climate-driven risks.

## Expected Outcomes


Improved water storage and drinking water access; reduced flood risk; strengthened goods-movement networks; increased grid reliability; and enhanced community safety and resilience in the face of climate impacts

## Cost

The exact costs of the planning and implementation have yet to be determined.

## Where to Learn More

Official Law Text: [https://calmatters.digitaldemocracy.org/bills/ca\\_202520260sb695](https://calmatters.digitaldemocracy.org/bills/ca_202520260sb695)



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