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## Note from the Chief Legislation Editor

The University of Pacific, McGeorge School of Law

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## *Note from the Chief Legislation Editor*

For this first printing of Greensheets under our new masthead, we endeavored to maintain the same tradition of quality analysis and insight into the inner workings of the legislature and of the greater capital community. Greensheets has become known as a resource for legislators, legislative staff, and others in the policy arena with its focus on the efficacy of statutory language, the consequences of specific drafting choices, and a discussion of future steps.

The bills chosen for this edition had a more mixed fate than in years past, with a number of bills vetoed or delayed late into the next year before ultimately becoming law. While past editions of Greensheets focused primarily on successful legislation, these mixed outcomes illustrate the turbulent year the legislature experienced and the rise of the moderate bloc of democrats. Three legislative leaders lost their leadership positions during the contentious SB 350 debate, leaving only the bill's author, Senate President Pro Tem Kevin De León, relatively unscathed. While Governor Brown eventually signed that hard wrought environmental legislation, his influence to shape legislation heading to his desk—or legislators' willingness to conform to the governor's vision—seems to be wanting, with countless unanimously passed bills vetoed.

The bills contained in this edition range from the important package from the Legislative Women's Caucus—with Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson's bill on equal pay and Assembly Member Cristina Garcia's paid family leave bill—to the effort to revitalize voting rights by Assembly Member Luis Alejo.

This edition also highlights the efforts of students in McGeorge School of Law's Capital Concentration, and the university's continued mission to strengthen the partnership between the school and the Legislature. Assembly Member Rich Gordon's AB 1200 is analyzed; the bill was sponsored in part by three students in McGeorge's 2014–15 Legislative & Public Policy Clinic.

In addition, this edition takes on an eccentricity of this legislative session, which has not been seen for a few years: bills considered in one of the multiple special sessions called by the governor. The Second Extraordinary session was meant to fix Medi-Cal funding, but was derailed by efforts to regulate tobacco and vapor products that were unsuccessful in the regular session.

Finally, I would like to thank the Board of Editors of Volume 47 of *The University of the Pacific Law Review* and our computer publishing specialist, Pauline Rodriguez Acosta, without whom we are all lost.

Brandon Bjerke  
Chief Legislation Editor  
*The University of the Pacific Law Review*  
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