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Introduction

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Introduction

Herein the *Pacific Law Journal* presents its fourth annual Review of Selected California Legislation. The Review provides a concise analysis of all legislation which the editors have determined to be of importance to the legal community. The Review is organized under nineteen topic areas which are listed in the Table of Contents. A Table of Code Sections Affected appears at the end of the Review to reference the reader to changes in the code sections which have been discussed. The heading of each bill analysis includes a description of the subject area, a listing of the code sections affected by the bill, the bill and chapter numbers, the author of the bill, all known organizational support and opposition, and the effective date of all urgency statutes. An italicized scope note is used to summarize the more lengthy writeups, and selected analyses contain a Comment section wherein the writer has undertaken to identify and focus upon legislative objectives and problem areas within the bill itself or within its potential application.

At the general election on November 7, 1972, California approved Assembly Constitutional Amendment 95 of the 1972 Regular Session, which provided for a two-year legislative session. With the change from a one-year session to a two-year session came many new legislative rules and procedures. Statutes will take effect on January 1 of each year provided that they were enacted 90 days prior to January 1—that is, on or before October 2. Exceptions are urgency statutes, statutes calling for elections, statutes providing for tax levies, and appropriation statutes containing the usual current expenses of the state, all of which take effect upon their enactment. Bills enacted at special sessions take effect 91 days after adjournment of such sessions, with the exceptions noted above. Formerly, statutes went into effect on the 61st day following the adjournment of the regular session at which the bill was passed and on the 91st day after the adjournment of a special session.

Obviously, an undertaking such as the Legislative Review would not be possible without dedicated and competent individual writers, and we are grateful for the efforts of the Legislative Review Staff Members. Appreciation is also extended to Harold Bradford, Legislative Representative of the State Bar of California, Robert Williams, Office of the

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Governor, and the legislative advocates and legislative committee consultants who contributed source material and helpful suggestions. Finally, our sincere thanks to Professor John Lewis, Faculty Advisor to the Legislative Review, for his guidance and encouragement throughout this endeavor.

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Secretary

The majority of the 1,215 bills enacted at the 1973 Regular Session will take effect on January 1, 1974. Where effective dates differ, it will be so noted.
