

File No. 250435

Committee Item No. _____

Board Item No. 49

COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

AGENDA PACKET CONTENTS LIST

Committee: _____

Date: _____

Board of Supervisors Meeting

Date: April 29, 2025

Cmte Board

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| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Motion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Resolution |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Ordinance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Legislative Digest |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Budget and Legislative Analyst Report |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Youth Commission Report |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Introduction Form |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Department/Agency Cover Letter and/or Report |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | MOU |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Grant Information Form |
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OTHER

- | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <u>Assembly Bill 1181 3/13/25</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <u>CSAC and LCC Standing</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
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Prepared by: Lisa Lew

Date: April 25, 2025

Prepared by: _____

Date: _____

1 [Supporting California State Assembly Bill No. 1181 (Haney) - Firefighter Personal Protective
2 Equipment: Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances]

3 **Resolution supporting California State Assembly Bill No. 1181, introduced by**
4 **Assembly Member Matt Haney, which seeks to remove perfluoroalkyl and**
5 **polyfluoroalkyl substance chemicals from any firefighter personal protective**
6 **equipment, and reaffirming San Francisco's commitment to the safety of our first**
7 **responders.**

8
9 WHEREAS, The California State Legislature introduced Assembly Bill No. 1181 (AB
10 1181), the Firefighter personal protective equipment: perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl
11 substances (PFAS), which would prohibit the manufacture, sale, distribution, or purchase of
12 any firefighter personal protective equipment (PPE) containing intentionally added per - and
13 poly-fluoroalkyl substance (PFAS) chemicals; and

14 WHEREAS, AB 1181 would require that the California Occupational Safety and Health
15 Standards Board (OSHSB) update its standards to include PFAS-free turnout gear in
16 alignment with pending updated standards from the National Fire Protection Association
17 (NFPA) within one year of NFPA's update; and

18 WHEREAS, Decades of scientific research have demonstrated the toxic and
19 carcinogenic nature of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances, known as PFAS, which
20 are a family of synthetic chemicals known as forever chemicals due to their persistent nature
21 in both the environment and the human body; and

22 WHEREAS, Research has linked exposure to and accumulation of PFAS to
23 development of tumors in the liver, reproductive organs, and pancreas; and

1 WHEREAS, In November 2023, the International Agency for Research on Cancer
2 declared perfluorooctanoic acid, which was been found in firefighter turnout gear, to be a
3 Group 1 known human carcinogen; and

4 WHEREAS, In addition to other industrial and commercial uses, PFAS is utilized in the
5 personal protective equipment (PPE) of firefighters, specifically within the inner moisture
6 barrier layer of the three-layer fabric, in order to pass a stringent light-resistance test to meet
7 Section 8.62 of the National Fire Protection Association Standard 1971; and

8 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Board of Supervisors passed Ordinance No. 106-24
9 (Board File No. 240299), which mandated that “the Fire Department shall no longer provide or
10 use Firefighter Personal Protective equipment containing intentionally-added PFAS,”
11 promoting the general welfare of our city’s first responders; and

12 WHEREAS, If AB 1181 is passed, the State of California will join San Francisco in
13 ensuring that harmful chemicals are not added to PPE for the sole purpose of passing a light,
14 flame, or liquid test and assuring our heroic first responders that their protective equipment is
15 not adversely impacting their long-term health; now, therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
17 hereby supports Assembly Bill No. 1181 as a critical measure to enhance the safety and
18 health of Firefighters; and, be it

19 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the California State
20 Legislature and the Governor to enact AB 1181 to ensure California’s Occupational Safety
21 and Health Standards Board (OSHSB) updates its standards to include PFAS-free turnout
22 gear to uphold the highest safety and compliance standards for Firefighters; and, be it

23 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors shall transmit a
24 copy of this Resolution to the Governor of California, the President pro Tempore of the
25 California State Senate, the Speaker of the California State Assembly, and Assembly Member

1 Matt Haney, to express the City and County of San Francisco’s strong support for this
2 legislation.


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AB-1181 Firefighters: personal protective equipment. (2025-2026)

SHARE THIS:



Date Published: 03/13/2025 09:00 PM

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 13, 2025

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE— 2025–2026 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

NO. 1181

Introduced by Assembly Member Haney

February 21, 2025

An act to amend Section 147.4 of the Labor Code, relating to employment.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1181, as amended, Haney. Firefighters: personal protective equipment.

The California Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1973 provides the Division of Occupational Safety and Health within the Department of Industrial Relations with the power, jurisdiction, and supervision over all employment and places of employment necessary to enforce and administer all occupational health and safety laws and to protect employees. The act grants to the Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board, an independent entity within the department, exclusive authority to adopt occupational safety and health standards within the state.

Beginning July 1, 2018, and every 5 years thereafter, the act requires the board, in consultation with the department, to complete a comprehensive review of all revisions to National Fire Protection Association standards pertaining to certain personal protective equipment and requires the board to consider modifying existing safety orders and to render a decision regarding the adoption of necessary changes to safety orders, or other applicable standards and regulations, no later than July 1 of the subsequent year, if the review finds that the revisions to applicable National Fire Protection Association standards provide a greater degree of personal protection than the safety orders.

This bill ~~would make a nonsubstantive change to those provisions:~~ *would, in addition to the above-described requirement, require the board to modify its existing safety order regarding firefighter personal protective equipment by January 1, 2027, to eliminate the use of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances and other regrettable substitutes, as provided. The bill would also require, by July 1, 2026, the Division of Occupational Safety and Health to report on progress toward implementation of the modified PPE safety standards, as provided. The bill would also make related findings and declarations.*

Vote: majority Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: ~~no~~yes Local Program: no

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. *The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:*

(a) Decades of scientific research have demonstrated the toxic and carcinogenic nature of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances, known as PFAS, which are a family of synthetic chemicals known as "forever chemicals" due to their persistent nature in both the environment and the human body.

(b) Research has linked exposure to and accumulation of PFAS to development of tumors in the liver, reproductive organs, and pancreas.

(c) In November 2023, the International Agency for Research on Cancer declared perfluorooctanoic acid, which was been found in firefighter turnout gear, to be a Group 1 known human carcinogen.

(d) In addition to other industrial and commercial uses, PFAS are utilized in the personal protective equipment (PPE) of firefighters, specifically within the inner moisture barrier layer of the three-layer fabric, in order to pass stringent light-resistance and vertical flame tests to meet Section 8.62 of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard 1971.

(e) In 2024, the NFPA updated the standards for PPE for firefighters, but the newly renumbered NFPA Standard 1970 standard still requires the overly burdensome vertical flame test and allows for the use of harmful chemicals such as PFAS and brominated flame retardants not explicitly named in the restricted substances list.

(f) Firefighting is an inherently dangerous profession that brings repeated exposures to numerous toxic substances, including benzene, asbestos, and hexavalent chromium. These exposures lead to a higher rate of cancer among firefighters than among the general population.

(g) Fire agencies throughout the country have worked to reduce levels of occupational exposure to harmful substances, including PFAS, through policies related to, among other things, clean cabs, strict gear cleaning, the use of self-contained breathing apparatuses during overhaul, and eliminating the use of aqueous film forming foam (AFFF) that contains PFAS.

(h) California restricted the use of AFFF, also known as Class B firefighting foam, containing PFAS through the enactment of Chapter 308 of the Statutes of 2020, which phases out their usage in both municipal and industrial firefighting settings in favor of non-PFAS alternatives.

~~SECTION 1.~~ SEC. 2. Section 147.4 of the Labor Code is amended to read:

147.4. (a) By January 1, 2016, the department shall convene an advisory committee to evaluate whether changes are needed to align the general industry safety orders in Sections 3403 to 3411, inclusive, of Article 10.1 (commencing with Section 3401) of Group 2 of Subchapter 7 of Chapter 4 of Article 8 of Division 1 of Title 8 of the California Code of Regulations with the applicable and most recently promulgated standards of the National Fire Protection Association. The committee shall be composed of parties in both management and labor, represent a cross section of the fire protection industry and community, and be competent and knowledgeable regarding personal protective clothing and equipment for firefighters and firefighting practices generally.

(b) By July 1, 2016, the advisory committee shall present its findings and recommendations for consideration by the board. No later than July 1, 2017, the board shall render a decision regarding the adoption of changes to the general industry safety orders in Sections 3403 to 3411, inclusive, of Article 10.1 (commencing with Section 3401) of Group 2 of Subchapter 7 of Chapter 4 of Article 8 of Division 1 of Title 8 of the California Code of Regulations, or other applicable standards and regulations, in order to maintain alignment with the applicable National Fire Protection Association standards.

(c) Beginning July 1, 2018, and every five years thereafter, the board, in consultation with the ~~department,~~ *department and subject to subdivision (d),* shall complete a comprehensive review of all revisions to National Fire Protection Association standards pertaining to personal protective equipment covered by the general industry safety orders in Sections 3403 to 3411, inclusive, of Article 10.1 (commencing with Section 3401) of Group 2 of Subchapter 7 of Chapter 4 of Article 8 of Division 1 of Title 8 of the California Code of Regulations. If the review finds that the revisions to applicable National Fire Protection Association standards provide a greater degree of personal protection than the safety orders, the board shall consider modifying existing safety orders and shall render a decision regarding the adoption of necessary changes to safety orders, or other applicable

standards and regulations, no later than July 1 of the subsequent year, in order to maintain alignment of the safety orders with the applicable National Fire Protection Association adopted standards.

(d) Notwithstanding subdivision (c), by January 1, 2027, the board, in consultation with the department, shall modify its existing safety order regarding firefighter personal protective equipment (PPE) in a manner that eliminates the use of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and other regrettable substitutes. In modifying the existing safety order, the board shall do both of the following:

(1) Use scientific research to create a standard for firefighter PPE used in California that is the most protective of firefighters' health and safety, using the 2025 NFPA 1970 Standard on Protective Ensembles for Structural and Proximity Firefighting, Work Apparel, Open-Circuit Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus for Emergency Services, and Personal Alert Safety Systems as a floor.

(2) Mandate that firefighter PPE certified for use in California be free of PFAS and any other regrettable substitutes known to pose long-term environmental and human health risks, including, but not limited to, brominated flame retardants. The modified safety order shall require manufacturers of firefighter PPE to certify that their products meet the new standards.

(e) (1) By July 1, 2026, the Division of Occupational Safety and Health shall provide a report to the Governor and Legislature on progress toward implementation of the modified PPE safety standards.

(2) The requirement for submitting a report imposed under this subdivision is inoperative on July 1, 2030, pursuant to Section 10231.5 of the Government Code.

(3) A report to be submitted pursuant to this subdivision shall be submitted in compliance with Section 9795 of the Government Code.

From: [Rosas, Lorenzo \(BOS\)](#)
To: [BOS Legislation, \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Chung, Lauren \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: AB 1181 (Haney) Support Resolution
Date: Tuesday, April 22, 2025 4:29:04 PM
Attachments: [AB 1181 \(Haney\) Support Resolution - Introduction Form.pdf](#)
[Bill Text - AB-1181 Firefighters personal protective equipment .pdf](#)
[AB 1181 Support Resolution Language.doc](#)

Hello all,

Please see attached for a support resolution for AB 1181 (Haney). I have attached the resolution language (word doc), introduction form, and bill text. I'm confirming that this item is routine, not contentious in nature, and of no special interest.

The California State Association of Counties and the League of California Cities have **not** taken a position on the bill.

Please let me know if there are any outstanding items for this. Thank you!

Best,

Lorenzo Rosas | Legislative Director
Office of Supervisor Stephen Sherrill
San Francisco Board of Supervisors, District 2
City Hall, Room 256
(415) 554-7752
<https://sfbos.org/supervisor-sherrill-district-2>

Introduction Form

(by a Member of the Board of Supervisors or the Mayor)

I hereby submit the following item for introduction (select only one):

- ☐ 1. For reference to Committee (Ordinance, Resolution, Motion or Charter Amendment)
- ☐ 2. Request for next printed agenda (For Adoption Without Committee Reference)
(Routine, non-controversial and/or commendatory matters only)
- ☐ 3. Request for Hearing on a subject matter at Committee
- ☐ 4. Request for Letter beginning with "Supervisor inquires..."
- ☐ 5. City Attorney Request
- ☐ 6. Call File No. from Committee.
- ☐ 7. Budget and Legislative Analyst Request (attached written Motion)
- ☐ 8. Substitute Legislation File No.
- ☐ 9. Reactivate File No.
- ☐ 10. Topic submitted for Mayoral Appearance before the Board on

The proposed legislation should be forwarded to the following (please check all appropriate boxes):

- ☐ Small Business Commission ☐ Youth Commission ☐ Ethics Commission
- ☐ Planning Commission ☐ Building Inspection Commission ☐ Human Resources Department

General Plan Referral sent to the Planning Department (proposed legislation subject to Charter 4.105 & Admin 2A.53):

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

(Note: For Imperative Agenda items (a Resolution not on the printed agenda), use the Imperative Agenda Form.)

Sponsor(s):

Subject:

Long Title or text listed:

Signature of Sponsoring Supervisor: