

## Assembly Bill 247 and Senate Bill 28

# School Facilities Bonds

### AB 247

Would place the Transitional Kindergarten through Community College Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2024 on a 2024 statewide election ballot.

*Authored by Assemblymembers Al Muratsuchi, Mike Fong and Lori Wilson*

### SB 28

Would place a general obligation bond on the 2024 state ballot to provide facilities support for TK-12 schools, community colleges and the state's public university systems.

*Authored by Sen. Steven Glazer*

### Why is it needed?

California's public schools serve nearly 6 million students in more than 300,000 classrooms, at over 10,000 schools — and three quarters of those schools are more than 25 years old. According to the California Department of Education, 30 percent of the state's K-12 classrooms are over 50 years old and 10 percent are more than 70 years old. Statewide, there is more than \$100 billion of need for modernization and new construction for TK-12 schools, while community colleges are estimated to have \$42 billion in need over the next 10 years.

Many of the state's campuses are dotted with prefabricated "portables" not meant to stand the test of time, and older buildings often have problems with lead contamination and poor ventilation while lacking inadequate safeguards against natural disasters or security threats. Even relatively new buildings may require significant upgrades to provide a 21st-century learning environment complete with science labs, technology-supported instruction, project-based learning, career technical education, community school amenities and other features that prepare students for the workplace and civic life.

Voters have been generous in authorizing local bonds to support their area schools, but they also expect the state to assist their local school districts in the critical work of building and modernizing schools, which calls for a statewide school facilities bond.

### How does it work?

AB 247: The Transitional Kindergarten Through Community College Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2024 is a state general obligation bond act that would provide \$14 billion to construct and modernize education facilities. This bond act would become operative only if approved by the voters at a 2024 statewide election.

SB 28: Also designed to help address the \$100 billion needed over the next decade for TK-12 and community college facilities is the Senate's version of a school facilities bond measure. SB 28 by Sen.



Steven Glazer would place a \$15 billion general obligation bond on the 2024 state ballot to provide facilities support for TK-12 schools and community colleges. The bill also includes funds for California's public university system.

### How does it help?

Californians want their children educated in school facilities that are safe, modern and equipped to prepare students for the demands of today's society and the modern workplace. They recognize the need for school buildings that are conducive to 21st-century learning, more resistant to natural disasters and security threats and devoid of environmental hazards like lead and poor ventilation.

Voters have repeatedly approved local bonds to build and renovate school facilities, enhance the scholastic experience and improve student outcomes. Assistance in the form of a statewide facilities bond will build on these successes and allow more students, especially those in low-resourced schools, to benefit from modern facilities, stimulating campuses and nurturing school environments that produce the next generation of Californian workers, citizens and leaders.