



Governor & Legislature Act to Address COVID-19 School Closures

On March 16, the California Legislature passed legislation to address the COVID-19 state of emergency declared by the Governor on March 4. [Senate Bill \(SB\) 89](#) appropriates at least \$500 million and up to \$1 billion from the General Fund to be used for any COVID-19 state of emergency related purpose. [SB 117](#) establishes fiscal and programmatic changes in law for special education consistent with [Executive Order N-26-20](#), which was issued by Governor Newsom on March 13.

For the purposes of 2019-20 funding, ADA reported to CDE “shall only include all full school months from July 1, 2019, to February 29, 2020.” This condensed ADA period applies to LEAs that comply with Executive Order N-26-20. The bill:

- specifically states the intent of the Legislature that an LEA’s employees and contractors are paid during the period of a school closure due to COVID-19; and
- waives instructional time penalties that would otherwise apply, as long as the applicable school district superintendent, county superintendent or charter school administrator certify that the closure due to COVID-19 caused the LEA to fall below applicable instructional time requirements.