

CCDA Legislative Status Report on Thursday, June 13, 2024

[Assembly Bill 1757](#) (Karla D) Accessibility: internet websites.

Current Text: Amended: 06/12/2024 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Status: 06/12/2024 – From committee chair, with author's amendments: Amend, and re-refer to committee. Read second time, amended, and re-referred to Committee on Appropriations.

Is Urgency: No

Is Fiscal: Yes

Location: 06/12/2024 – Senate. Committee on Appropriations.

Summary (Bill Text):

The Unruh Civil Rights Act (Unruh Act) requires persons within the jurisdiction of the state to be free and equal and, regardless of the person's sex, race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, disability, medical condition, genetic information, marital status, sexual orientation, citizenship, primary language, or immigration status to be entitled to the full and equal accommodations, advantages, facilities, privileges, or services in all business establishments, as prescribed, and makes a violation of the federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) a violation of the act. Existing law imposes liability upon a person who denies, aids, or incites a denial of, or makes any discrimination or distinction contrary to, rights afforded by law for actual damages suffered, exemplary damages, a civil penalty, and attorney's fees, as specified, to any person who was denied the specified rights. Existing law also imposes liability upon a person, firm, or corporation that denies or interferes with admittance to, or enjoyment of, public facilities or otherwise interferes with the rights of an individual with a disability, as specified, for damages and attorney's fees to a person who was denied those rights.

This bill would provide that statutory damages on the basis of a specific accessibility barrier on an internet website under these provisions shall only be recovered against an entity, as defined, if the internet website is not accessible, as defined.

The bill would require, for a plaintiff to be entitled to statutory damages on the basis of a specific accessibility barrier that constitutes a violation of the Unruh Act by violating the ADA, the plaintiff to prove either that the plaintiff personally encountered a specific barrier that caused the plaintiff to experience a difference in the plaintiff's access to, or use of, the

internet website as compared to other users because the internet website was not accessible or that the plaintiff was deterred from accessing or using all or part of the internet website or the content of the internet website because the internet website was not accessible. The bill would prohibit, in a civil action seeking statutory damages under the Unruh Act and the other provisions described above therewith on the basis of a specific accessibility barrier, as defined, on an entity's internet website that is a violation of the ADA, the entity from being liable for those damages if the entity establishes, as an affirmative defense to the claim, certain elements, including that the entity identified the specific accessibility barrier in a digital accessibility report posted on the accessibility page, as specified, of its internet website. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

(Based on text date 06/12/2024)

[Assembly Bill 3279](#) (Committee on Judiciary) State Bar of California.

Current Text: Amended: 06/05/2024 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Status: 06/05/2024 – From committee chair, with author's amendments: Amend, and re-refer to committee. Read second time, amended, and re-referred to Committee on Judiciary.

Is Urgency: No

Is Fiscal: No

Location: 05/29/2024 – Senate. Committee on Judiciary.

Summary (Bill Text):

Existing law, the State Bar Act, provides for the licensure and regulation of attorneys by the State Bar of California (State Bar), a public corporation governed by a board of trustees. Existing law prescribes the manner of appointment of members of the board by the Supreme Court, the Senate Committee on Rules, the Speaker of the Assembly, and the Governor. Existing law establishes 4-year terms of office for attorney and public members of the board, and authorizes attorney members to be appointed for only one additional term. This bill would authorize an appointing authority to remove from office at any time a member of the board appointed by that appointing authority for continued neglect of duties, incompetence, or unprofessional or dishonorable conduct. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

(Based on text date 06/05/2024)

Total Measures: 2