

# CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE - 2025-2026 SIMULATION SESSION

SENATE BILL

NO 39

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Introduced by Senator Gonzalez

October 01, 2025

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To prohibit new oil drilling and toxic industrial operations within 3,200 feet of K-12 schools, daycare centers, and residential areas.

## LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 39, as introduced, Senator Gonzalez. Clean Air Near Schools Act.

Existing law authorizes the State Oil and Gas Supervisor to regulate drilling, operation, and abandonment of oil and gas wells. While California has adopted some setbacks between drilling and sensitive areas, there is currently no comprehensive prohibition on establishing new oil or gas operations near schools and residential communities.

This bill would prohibit the issuance of new oil and gas drilling permits, or renewal of expiring permits, within 3,200 feet of schools, daycare centers, and residential zones. It directs the California Geologic Energy Management Division (CalGEM) to enforce this law, and allows for civil penalties of up to \$25,000 per day for violations.

**Vote:** Majority. **Appropriation:** No. **Fiscal Committee:** No. **Local Program:** Yes (requires local enforcement coordination)

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

### SECTION 1.

(a) The Legislature finds and declares that children and families living near oil and gas drilling sites face elevated risks of asthma, cancer, and other health conditions due to air pollutants and toxic emissions.

(b) The purpose of this Act is to protect public health and promote environmental justice.

### SECTION 2.

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no new oil or gas drilling permits shall be issued within 3,200 feet of a K-12 school, daycare center, or residential dwelling.

(b) Existing permits in such zones shall not be renewed upon expiration.

**SECTION 3.**

- (a) The California Geologic Energy Management Division shall enforce the provisions of this Act.
- (b) Any violation shall be subject to civil penalties not to exceed \$25,000 per day.
- (c) Local air quality management districts shall cooperate with CalGEM in monitoring and enforcement.

