

Environment & Energy

# California Corporate Accountability Bill Dies in State Assembly

By Zach Bright

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- Would have required big companies to report emissions
  - Bill fell short on last day of state legislative session
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A significant climate reporting bill to required large private and public corporations such as Amazon.com Inc., Apple Inc., and Walmart Inc. to disclose greenhouse gas emissions was unable to advance in the California Assembly.

The bill, S.B. 260, received a 37-25 vote on Wednesday, unable to secure a simple majority of the 80-member Assembly. The state Senate had previously passed it 23-7 in January.

The measure would have gone farther than the Securities and Exchange Commission's proposed climate disclosure rule, which only applies to publicly traded companies and contains certain carve-outs for supply-chain emissions reporting.

A full reporting from any large public or private corporation doing business in the state of all emissions would have been required, including supply-chain—known as Scope 3—emissions. The reports would be made to a third-party emissions registry.

It's a blow to environmental advocates, who said the bill would have made clear how large corporations are contributing to climate change, with the hope it would encourage them to reduce emissions.

Trade groups led by the California Chamber of Commerce opposed the Climate Corporate Accountability Act, arguing that Scope 3 emissions are impossible to report accurately and completely.

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