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California Law for Asset Managers: California ESG Landscape - Ropes & Gray LLP

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On this episode of Ropes & Gray's California Law for Asset Managers podcast series, Josh Lichtenstein, a benefits partner and head of the ERISA fiduciary practice, and Catherine Skulan, an asset management partner, further discuss the ESG landscape in California, including its climate-related disclosure regime as well as a fossil fuel divestment bill, which remains pending in the legislature, but if adopted, would impact managers overseeing state pension assets.

Transcript:

Catherine Skulan: Hello, and welcome to another installment of our Ropes & Gray podcast series on California Law for Asset Managers. I'm Catherine Skulan, an asset management partner based in California, and I am pleased to be joined by Josh Lichtenstein, a benefits partner and head of the ERISA fiduciary practice based in New York.

In our last two episodes in this series, my colleagues and I discussed recently enacted California laws that fall under the environmental, social and governance ("ESG") banner, and how those laws relate to asset managers and their portfolio companies. Hopefully, you were able to catch those episodes. Note, links to those episodes will be available in the transcript of this episode, so you can find them there: [Overview of New California Law Requiring Disclosure on Diversity in VC Investments by "Venture Capital Companies"](#) (December 5, 2023) and [New California Climate Disclosure Requirements and Their Relevance to Asset Managers and Their Portfolio Companies](#) (December 19, 2023). But, if you didn't catch them, here's a quick refresh:

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