

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY
LEGISLATIVE ACTION COMMITTEE REPORT
- April 11, 2023 -
APRIL BILLS FOR CONSIDERATION**

April 10, 2023 - Members Met: (Co-Chairs) F. Briones & D. Igelsrud (Committee) C. Brown,
D. Evans, L. Gross, J. Hays, D. Reik, S. Roos, J. Stapleton, S. Sukaton & M. Sutter.

**AB 311 / SB 245 (Asm. Miguel Santiago (D) / Sen. Melissa Hurtado (D)):
California Food Assistance Program: Eligibility And Benefits - SUPPORT**

This bill would remove the 55 years of age or older age limitation and make any individual eligible for the California Food Assistance Program (CFAP) if the individual's immigration status is the sole basis for their ineligibility for CalFresh benefits. By extending eligibility for CFAP, which is administered by the counties, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

**AB 362 (Asm. Alex Lee (D)):
Real Property Taxation: Land Value Taxation Study - SUPPORT**

This bill would require the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration to conduct or commission a study on the efficacy of a statewide land value taxation system as an alternative to the current appraisal methods utilized for real property taxation. The bill would require the study to be provided to the Legislature by Jan. 1, 2025. The bill would make related findings and declarations.

**AB 418 (Asms. Jesse Gabriel (D) & Buffy Wicks (D)):
Food Product Safety - SUPPORT**

This bill, commencing Jan. 1, 2025, would prohibit a person or entity from manufacturing, selling, delivering, distributing, holding, or offering for sale, in commerce a food product that contains any specified substance, including, among others, brominated vegetable oil & red dye 3.

**AB 538 (Asm. Holden (D)):
Multistate Regional Transmission System Organization: Membership - OPPOSE**

This bill would prohibit a California electrical transmission facility owner, a retail seller of electricity, or a local publicly owned electric utility from joining a multistate regional transmission system organization (MRTSO), as defined, unless the bylaws or other organizational documents that govern the organization, and the organization's operations, meet Federal Energy Regulatory Commission requirements and other specified requirements. The bill would require a California transmission owner, retail seller, or local publicly owned electric utility, before joining a MRTSO, to submit the bylaws and other organizational documents that govern the MRTSO to the Energy Commission for review. The bill would require the Energy Commission, in consultation with the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) and the state board, to review those materials for compliance with the bill's requirements. The bill would prohibit a California transmission owner, retail seller, or local publicly owned electric utility from joining the MRTSO unless the Energy Commission has determined that the organization's bylaws and organizational documents meet those requirements. If a California transmission owner, retail seller, or local publicly owned electric utility has joined an Independent System Operator (ISO) that becomes a MRTSO and the Energy Commission determines that the organization's bylaws and organizational documents do not meet those requirements, the bill would require that the California transmission owner, retail seller, or local publicly owned electric utility not remain in the organization. The bill would authorize the ISO to develop and submit to the Energy Commission a governance proposal that complies with those requirements and to provide notice and a copy of this submission to the Legislature and the Governor at the same time as it is submitted to the Energy Commission. The bill would require the Energy Commission, in consultation with the PUC and state board, to review the proposal for compliance with the bill's requirements, and, if the Energy Commission determines that the proposal meets those requirements, to submit the governance proposal to the Governor and to the Legislature with a declaration that the Energy Commission has so found. If notice is delivered by the Energy Commission during a regular session of the Legislature, and if a transmission owner from outside California that is not a participating transmission owner as of Jan. 1, 2024, has entered into an agreement with the ISO indicating its intent to become a participating transmission owner, the bill would authorize the ISO, beginning 270 days after receipt of notice by the Legislature, to proceed to implement the proposal.

AB 1620 (Asm. Rick Zbur (D)): Costa-Hawkins Rental Housing Act: Permanent Disabilities: Comparable Or Smaller Units - SUPPORT

This bill would authorize a jurisdiction to require the owner of a residential real property that is subject to an ordinance or charter provision that controls the rental rate to permit a tenant who is current on their rent and who has a permanent disability related to mobility to move to an available comparable or smaller unit, as defined, located on the first floor of the building. The bill would require an owner who grants a request pursuant to these provisions to allow the tenant to retain their lease at the same rental rate and terms of the existing lease if certain conditions are met, including, among others, the move is determined to be necessary to accommodate the tenant's disability related to mobility and the new dwelling or unit is in the same building or on the same parcel with at least 3 other units.

SB 2 (Sen. Anthony Portantino (D)): Firearms - SUPPORT

This bill would require the licensing authority to issue or renew a license if the applicant is not a disqualified person for the license and the applicant is at least 21 years of age. The bill would remove the good character and good cause requirements from the issuance criteria. Under the bill, the applicant would be a disqualified person if they, among other things, are reasonably likely to be a danger to self, others, or the community at large, as specified. This bill would add the requirement that the applicant be the recorded owner, with the Department of Justice, of the pistol, revolver, or other firearm is capable of being concealed upon the person. This bill would change the training requirement to be no less than 16 hrs, in length and would add additional subjects to the course incl., among other things, the safe storage and legal transportation of firearms. The bill would require an issuing authority, prior to that issuance, renewal, or amendment to a license, if it has direct access to the designated department system to determine if the applicant is the recorded owner of the pistol, revolver, or other firearm. The bill would require an issuing authority without access to that system to confirm the ownership with the sheriff of the county in which the agency is located. Additionally, the bill would require a licensing authority to provide the applicant notice if a new license or license renewal is denied or revoked. If an application is denied or a license is revoked based on a determination that the applicant is a disqualified person, the bill would permit the applicant to request a hearing to challenge the license denial or revocation, and require the licensing authority to inform the applicant of the ability to seek a hearing. If a new license or license renewal is denied or revoked for any other reason, the bill would authorize the applicant to seek a writ of mandate from a superior court within 30 days of receipt of notice of denial or revocation, and require the licensing authority to inform the applicant of the ability to seek a writ of mandate. Also, the bill would revise that info. to include, among other things, the licensee's driver's license or ID number, fingerprints, and info. relating to the date of expiration of the license, and would remove the requirement that the license detail the reason for desiring a license to carry the weapon. Further, the bill would require the dept. to notify the licensing authority if the dept. is unable to ascertain, among other things, the final disposition of an arrest or criminal charge under state or federal law that would prohibit the person from possessing, receiving, owning, or purchasing a firearm. The bill would require the licensing authority to instead collect the applicant's fingerprint that would provide that positive identification in the files of the dept., as specified. This bill would prohibit a license from being issued or renewed unless the dept. reports to a licensing authority that the applicant is eligible to possess, receive, own, or purchase a firearm. Furthermore, the bill would authorize a licensing authority to charge the add'l processing cost fee for a license renewal and would permit the licensing authority to collect the first 50% of the fee upon filing of the application. The bill also removes the prohibition on licensing authority requirements for add'l fees or liability insurance. Moreover, the bill would authorize the Attorney General to revise the standard form for licenses and the design standard if the committee does not revise the form or issue a design standard within a specified time period. And, the bill would remove those exemptions, except as specified. The bill would make it a crime to bring an unloaded firearm into, or upon the grounds of, any residence of the Governor, any other constitutional officer, or Member of the Legislature. The bill would also prohibit a licensee from carrying a firearm to specified locations, incl., among other places, a building designated for a court proceeding and a place of worship, as defined, with specific exceptions. Also, the bill would additionally prohibit a person from knowingly possessing a firearm in any building, real property, or parking area under the control of an airport or passenger vessel terminal, as specified. Additionally, the bill would revise the exception for a person who has a valid concealed carry license to permit them to carry a specified firearm in an area that is not within any building, real property, or parking area under the control of a public or private school, or on a street or sidewalk immediately adjacent to a building, real property, or parking area under the control of that public or private school, as specified. Lastly, the bill would also require a licensing authority to revoke a license if, among other things, a licensee has provided inaccurate or incomplete info. on their application for a new license or license renewal. While carrying a firearm, this bill would prohibit a licensee from, among other things, consuming an alcoholic beverage or controlled substance and from falsely representing that the licensee is a peace officer. The bill would authorize the dept. to adopt emergency regulations to implement the concealed firearm licensing system, as specified. This bill would make conforming changes and would state that its provisions are severable.

**SB 261 (Sens. Henry Stern (D), Josh Becker (D), Lena Gonzalez (D) & Scott Weiner (D)):
Greenhouse Gases: Climate-Related Financial Risk - SUPPORT**

This bill would require, on or before Dec. 31, 2024, and annually thereafter, a covered entity, as defined, to prepare a climate-related financial risk report disclosing the entity's climate-related financial risk and measures adopted to reduce and adapt to climate-related financial risk disclosed. The bill would require the covered entity to submit to the state board, and make available to the public on its own internet website, a copy of the report and to submit to the Secretary of State a statement affirming, not under penalty of perjury, that the report discloses climate-related financial risk. The bill would also set forth the duties of the Climate-Related Risk Disclosure Advisory Group, as specified, including the duty to collect and review climate-related financial risk reports received in the prior calendar year and the duty to annually prepare a public report that contains specified information, including a review of the disclosure of climate-related financial risk contained in climate-related financial risk reports and an analysis of the systemic and sectorwide climate-related financial risks facing the state. The bill would also require the Office of Planning and Research to serve as the administrative staff for the advisory group. By expanding the scope of crimes, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

SB 497 (Sen. Lola Smallwood-Cuevas (D)): Protected Employee Conduct - SUPPORT

This bill would create a rebuttable presumption in favor the employee's claim if an employer engages in any action prohibited by this provision within 90 days of the protected activity specified in this provision. Additionally, the bill would instead establish that in addition to other remedies, an employer is liable for a civil penalty not exceeding \$10,000 per employee for each violation of this provision, to be awarded to the employee or employees who suffered the violation. Lastly, the bill would create a rebuttable presumption in favor the employee's claim if an employer engages in any action prohibited by this provision within 90 days of the protected activity specified in this provision.

SB 588 (Sen. Ben Allen (D)):**Property Taxation: Welfare Exemption: Lower Income Households: Cap - SUPPORT**

This bill would remove the limit on the total exemption amount for any property for which a claim is filed and granted for the 2024–25 fiscal year or any fiscal year thereafter if, in addition to the above-described requirement, at least 90% of the property's units are made continuously available to, as defined, or are occupied by lower income households, as defined, at a rent that does not exceed the rent for lower income households, as prescribed by specified law. The bill would require the claimant seeking an exemption pursuant to the bill's provisions to provide to the county assessor any additional documents and materials requested by the county assessor necessary to evaluate the claimant's eligibility for the exemption. By imposing additional duties on local tax officials, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. Additionally, the bill would state the intent of the Legislature to comply with that requirement with respect to the above-described removal of the exemption cap. Also, the bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to the statutory provisions noted above. Further, the bill would provide that, notwithstanding those provisions, no appropriation is made and the state shall not reimburse local agencies for property tax revenues lost by them pursuant to the bill. Lastly, the bill would take effect immediately as a tax levy.

SCA 2 (Sen. Henry Stern (D)): Elections: Voter Qualifications - SUPPORT

The California Constitution allows a United States citizen who is at least 18 years of age and a resident of California to vote. This measure would reduce the minimum voting age to 17.

HR 698 (Rep. Cicilline, David (D) [RI-01]): Assault Weapons Ban of 2023 - SUPPORT

{Companion Bill to S. 14 & S. 25 (Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D) [CA]), which LACDP Supports as of February 2023}

To regulate assault weapons, to ensure that the right to keep and bear arms is not unlimited, and for other purposes.