

FCLCA Advocacy 2024 – Updated May 9, 2024

AGENCY AND EXECUTIVE BRANCH ADVOCACY

Asked Air Resources Board to include robust community participation as part of its SB 905 rulemaking process.

Lobbied Office of Health Care Affordability for 3% cap on annual price increases for health care

Advocated for greater enforcement by Cal/OSHA of work and safety regulations for farmworkers in Assembly Labor Committee

Lobbied the State Water Board to adopt strong water efficiency standards as part of their Making Water Conservation a CA Way of Life rulemaking.

Letter of support to Department of Medical Services re the [Medi-Cal's CalAIM 1115 waiver demonstration amendment request](#) to provide multi-year continuous Medi-Cal enrollment (MYCE) for young children

Organized organizational support for Universal Clemency Campaign: <https://clemencyca.org/> asking Gov. Newsom to commute all death sentences in CA.

Asked the governor to incorporate elements of an Excluded Immigrant Workers Unemployment Benefit Program and plan in EDD's modernization effort.

Asked the Covered California Board to work with advocates and the Legislature to prioritize and establish a "mirror" marketplace that will open up Covered California to all Californians, regardless of immigration status.

STATE BUDGET 2024-25 ADVOCACY

Senate and Assembly Budget Committees: Lobbied for a 15 percent cut in the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitations budget in order to help close the state's budget deficit and protect core programs.

Urged Senate and Assembly Budget Committees to include \$20 million in 2024-2025 Budget to fund another round of RIGHT (Rehabilitative Investment Grants for Healing and Transformation) to eligible community-based, nonprofit organizations for the purpose of delivering trauma-informed, rehabilitative and/or restorative justice programming in CDCR institutions.

Asked Gov Newsom, Senate President and Assembly Speaker to fully fund SB 253 and SB 261 implementation for corporate environmental accountability.

Budget Advocacy, including letters and public comment, to Budget Committees, Legislative leaders, and the governor in support of

- Protecting Full Funding for School Meals for All
- Full funding of \$20m for Free Tax Preparation to help low-income people access the CalEITC
- Protecting existing CalEITC and Young Child Tax Credit at current funding levels
- Maintaining current safety net spending with no cuts or delays, including CalWORKS and CalFresh
- The Coordinated Housing and Homelessness plan
- Retaining \$33 million for CA immigrant legal services
- Allowing all Californians, including undocumented immigrants, to have access to Covered California health insurance
- Multi-Year Continual Enrollment for Medi-Cal for children 0-5
- Maintaining funding for FURS (Family Urgent Response System) rather than proposed cuts
- Maintaining full funding of CalWORKS program
- Aligning the income threshold for the California Earned Income Tax Credit (CalEITC) and the Young Child Tax Credit and the Foster Youth Tax Credit

BILLS

NOTE: With the exception of 2-year bills (bills that were brought over from 2023) and a few that have no fiscal impact, most of these bills are currently in the Senate or Assembly Appropriations Committee “on suspense.” The Appropriations Committees in both houses will determine by May 17 which bills will be taken off suspense and passed on to the floor of their house of origin for a vote. If they pass the floor vote, they will repeat the process of a policy committee hearing, an appropriations committee hearing, and floor vote in the other house. If passed, they move on to the governor for signature or a possible veto.

Environmental Bills

SUPPORT

ACA 16 amends the California Constitution to declare that the people have a right to clean air and water and a healthy environment.

AB 2256 requires the California Public Utilities Commission to consider the true value of rooftop solar, including its societal benefits in order to promote greater use and mitigate the impacts of climate change.

AB 2329 Helps provide electrification for low and middle-income ratepayers by using funding from non-ratepayer sources such as the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund.

SB 252 requires California public pensions to divest holdings in large oil companies. 2-year bill.

AB 1864 would strengthen the regulation of pesticide regulations in school zones.

AB 2761 will prohibit the sale of highly toxic plastic packaging containing PFAS or made of PVC /PVDC, which will protect public health and support the creation of a more circular economy.

AB 593 requires the California Energy Commission (CEC) to identify an emission reduction strategy for the building sector to support the achievement of the state's 2045 greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction. 2-yr.

AB 1042 clarifies CDPR's authority to regulate pesticide-coated seeds within currently prescribed California state law. 2-yr.

AB 2086 requires Caltrans to regularly report to the legislature and the public on how transportation investments are advancing California's safety, climate, equity, and economic benefit goals.

AB 2208 declares the Legislature's intent to provide \$1 billion in bond funding for port infrastructure upgrades to facilitate offshore wind development. Not moving forward.

AB 2236 and SB 1053 AB 2236/SB 1053 are identical companion bills that would eliminate the existing exemption of plastic film bags. AB 2236/SB 1053 would also increase standards for reusable bags to prevent the use of other equally disposable plastic bags and increase the recycled content requirements for paper bags.

AB 2316 bans specified chemicals in food served by schools that have been linked to behavior disorders (is currently done in EU countries.)

AB 2401 modernizes the Clean Cars 4 All (CC4A) program at the California Air Resources Board (CARB) by prioritizing incentives for low-income drivers who consume the most fuel, stand to benefit the most from cost-savings associated with owning zero-emission vehicles (ZEVs), and own older vehicles that produce high amounts of air pollutants.

AB 2535 will (1) eliminate new general purpose highway lanes as an eligible use of TCEP (SB1) funding, (2) limit highway expansion in the most pollution burdened communities, and (3) ensure that at least 50% of TCEP funding is used to build out freight infrastructure for a zero emissions future.

AB 2671 Requires a licensed family daycare home to only serve water to children, or use water in food preparation for the family daycare home, that has been filtered with a point-of-use water filtration device certified to meet specified standards for water safety, and that explicitly claims to remove lead.

SB 707 establishes an EPR program for recycling textiles in California under the auspices of CalRecycle. 2-yr.

SB 867 enacts the Drought, Flood, and Water Resilience, Wildfire, and Forest Resilience, Coastal Resilience, Extreme Heat Mitigation, Biodiversity, and Nature-Based Climate Solutions, Climate Smart Agriculture, Park Creation and Outdoor Access, and Clean Energy Bond Act of 2024. 2-yr.

SB 1148 authorizes interested multi-meter facility (multi-family housing sites, congregations, and government facilities. including schools) to deploy a master meter and private submeters for the express purpose of resilience. Failed.

SB 1167 will require chain restaurants to provide non-toxic reusable cups for customers who dine in. Reusables create a better experience for customers, save businesses money that they would have otherwise spent on disposable cups and prevent an accumulation of landfill waste. Failed.

Peace and Militarism-Related Bills

OPPOSE

SB 1081 Ties applying for a CA driver's license to registration with the federal selective service system.

Economic Justice Bills

SUPPORT

Health-Related

AB 4 provides Covered CA subsidies to undocumented immigrants. 2-year bill in Senate

SB 1236 removes pre-existing conditions as a barrier to purchasing Medigap insurance.

AB 2297 – Healthcare assets and charity health care; disallows liens on homes for medical debt.

AB 2415 extends the CAPI (Cash assistance for aged, blind and disabled immigrants) to undocumented immigrants.

AB 2466 ensures the all Medi-Cal managed care covered services are available and geographically accessible to Medi-Cal enrollees in a timely manner.

AB 2901 establishes pregnancy and disability leave for public school and community college employees.

AB 2956 provides continuing 12-month eligibility for Medi-Cal for adults.

SB 238 provides for automatic review of denial of mental health services by managed health care plans or insurers to people under 26.

SB 294 establishes an automatic grievance process for the denial of mental health or substance abuse treatment for young people.

SB 1061 prohibits a consumer credit reporting agency from making a consumer credit report containing information about medical debt.

SB1089 requires community notification of the closures of grocery stores and pharmacies.

SB 1132 authorizes a county or city health officer to investigate a private detention facility.

Safety Net

AB 311 and SB 245 extend the California Food Assistance Program to people of all ages who are ineligible for CalFresh due to their immigration status. 2-year bills

AB 1808 Childcare - expands eligibility for childcare in CalWORKS to 24 months from 12 months.

AB 2191 - the Free Tax Prep and Community Engagement Act establishes the California Earned Income Tax Credit (CalEITC) Outreach, Education, and Free Tax Assistance Grant Program.

SB 85 extends Enhanced Services for Asylees and Vulnerable Noncitizens for up to 380 days.

SB 333 establishes SOAR program of guaranteed income for homeless students.

Workers' Rights

AB 518 extends paid family leave to allow workers to care for "chosen family" beyond immediate biological family members – 2-year bill

AB 2123 improves California's Paid Family Leave by removing the provision that allows employers to require employees to use 2 weeks of accrued vacation before they can receive PFL benefits.

SB 1049 Padilla – Living Wage -Establishes a certification program for employers that pay a living wage, which the bill would define as the lowest wage that allows full-time and part-time wage earners to afford a decent standard of living.

SB 227 establishes an unemployment insurance program for undocumented workers excluded from unemployment benefits. 2 yr bill

SB 1090 allows California workers to apply for Paid Family Leave and State Disability Insurance benefits up to 30 days before they are on leave.

AB 2499 would strengthen current anti-discrimination, leave and accommodations for survivors of domestic violence and violent crimes. It would also allow California workers to use their paid sick and safe days and take unpaid leave from work to support a family member who is a survivor of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, or other violent crime in specific activities to help the survivor recover and secure their safety.

Housing and Homelessness

AB 1657, the Affordable Housing Bond Act of 2024, authorizes the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$10,000,000,000 to finance programs to fund affordable rental housing and homeownership programs, including, among others, the Multifamily Housing Program, the CalHome Program, and the Joe Serna, Jr. Farmworker Housing Grant Program.

Budget letter to Gov. Newsom and Budget Chairs endorsing the Housing and Homelessness Investment Framework and advocating for protecting Affordable Housing programs; maintaining \$1B HHAP investment.

Signed Budget letter to Gov. Newsom and Budget Chairs regarding the Housing and Homelessness Budget Blueprint for Impact.

Public Comment to Senate Budget Subcommittee 4 opposing cuts in affordable housing programs

Letter to Gov. Newsom in support of AB 1657 housing bond measure

Criminal Justice Bills

SUPPORT

SB 1001, co-sponsored by FCLCA, amends the Penal Code to ensure that California does not engage in cruel and unusual punishment by executing or sentencing persons with intellectual disabilities to death. On the Senate Floor.

SB 94 authorizes an individual sentenced to life imprisonment without the possibility of parole for a conviction in which one or more special circumstances were found to be true to petition for recall and resentencing if the offense occurred before June 5, 1990, and the individual has served at least 25 years in custody. 2 yr bill on the Assembly Floor.

SB 950 will help address drug addiction and lower recidivism by helping incarcerated people pre-enroll into Medicaid/Medical, SSI, CalFresh, and other programs, which will make them eligible for benefits upon release.

AB 2833 protects the integrity of restorative justice processes by ensuring that statements are not admissible in future court proceedings.

AB544 requires county jails to provide polling places. 2 yr

AB1082 Ends poverty vehicle tows. 2 yr

AB1310 Firearms, judicial discretion, retroactivity. 2 yr

AB1510 Bond issue to fund services, prevention, and high-level trafficking related to reducing fentanyl overdoses. 2 yr

AB1877 streamlines and makes improvements to juvenile record sealing process.

AB1986 requires the Office of the Inspector General to post the CDCR list of banned books and will also empower the OIG to remove books from the list if they find that there is insufficient evidence to ban the book in the first place.

AB2065 would facilitate the filing of Racial Justice Act claims by requiring the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, the Judicial Council, and the Department of Justice to report disaggregated data by county annually.

AB2136 encourages more jurisdictions to offer drug checking services in collaboration with community-based organizations, national, state, and local public health departments, or agencies and research institutions, to help mitigate the consequences of the unregulated drug market and reduce drug related overdoses.

AB2168

1) Extends the current dismissal requirement for Vehicle Code misdemeanors following a prison commitment to all victimless misdemeanors, regardless of whether that misdemeanor is located in the Vehicle Code, Penal Code, or elsewhere; and 2) Second, AB 2168 would require courts to sentence individuals to serve their time in county jail instead of state prison if their sentence time equates to less than one year in custody.

AB2178 establishes declining thresholds for surplus prison capacity to facilitate closure of prisons.

AB2345 requires California to support funding for essential crime victim services when there are major reductions that impact the facilitation of services.

AB2354 enables survivors of intimate partner violence, human trafficking, and sexual violence and would enable them to petition the court to vacate a sentence resulting from their abuse and victimization.

AB2483 requires superior court judges to develop plans for fair and efficient handling of postconviction hearings involving resentencing hearings.

AB2882 will help deliver on the promise of Public Safety Realignment by enhancing existing behavioral health planning and reporting processes in our community corrections system.

ACA4 ends the California prohibition on voting for persons serving a state or felony prison sentence.

ACA8 The California Constitution prohibits slavery and prohibits involuntary servitude, except as punishment for a crime. This measure would instead prohibit slavery in any form, including forced labor compelled by the use or threat of physical or legal coercion.

SB50 Racially Biased Pretextual stops. This bill would prohibit a peace officer from stopping or detaining the operator of a motor vehicle or bicycle for a low-level infraction, as defined, unless a separate, independent basis for a stop exists. The bill would authorize a peace officer who does not have grounds to stop a vehicle or bicycle, but can determine the identity of the owner, to send a citation or warning letter to the owner.

SB254 Media access in prisons

SB691 requires all local educational agencies (LEAs) to screen every student in kindergarten, first, and second grade for risk of dyslexia.

SB1069 restores the Office of the Inspector General's (OIG) investigatory authority in determining the outcome of employee sexual misconduct in state prisons.

SB1144 ensures that consumers know which high-volume third-party sellers are complying with the law, by increase regulations and procedures on online marketplaces to ensure that stolen goods are not being sold on these sites by identifying them to consumers.

SB1320 requires health plans and insurers to establish a process to reimburse providers for mental health and substance use disorder treatment services that are integrated with primary care in order to help address the fentanyl crisis.

SB1323 modernizes the incompetent to stand trial process (IST) for cases involving felonies, consistent with the recommendations of the Committee on the Revision of the Penal Code.

SB1353 Would add the right to mental health treatment to the Youth Bill of Rights for incarcerated juveniles.

Criminal Justice Bills (cont.)

OPPOSE

AB1804 reduces the amount of fentanyl and/or fentanyl precursors for an order authorizing interception to 1.67 gallons by liquid volume and 8 ounces of solid substance by weight of a substance containing fentanyl or its precursors or analogs.

AB1809 prohibits an incarcerated person convicted of first-degree murder of a peace officer from seeking recall and resentencing under the provision permitting the court to recall and resentence a defendant convicted of a felony offense.

AB1848 expands Fentanyl-free zones.

AB1898 would make persons convicted of specified sex offenses involving minors ineligible from earning release credits.

AB2106 extends probation terms for offenses involving a controlled substance except when a person completes a mandatory, court-ordered drug treatment program.

AB2295 eliminates the statute of limitations for certain sex offenses against minors.

AB2576 precludes mental health diversion when a defendant is charged with attempted murder.

AB2782 increases penalties for fentanyl distribution based on weight.

SB923 Invalidates key elements of Proposition 47 (Prop. 47) by increasing penalties for low-level shoplifting and petty theft under multiple circumstances.

SB1262 Requires BPH to consider a person's entire criminal history when considering parole eligibility and requires that post-release community supervision be revoked upon the third violation of terms.

AB3182 Would raise the sentence for possession for sale, transportation for sale, or sale of fentanyl over one ounce to a maximum of six years imprisonment.