



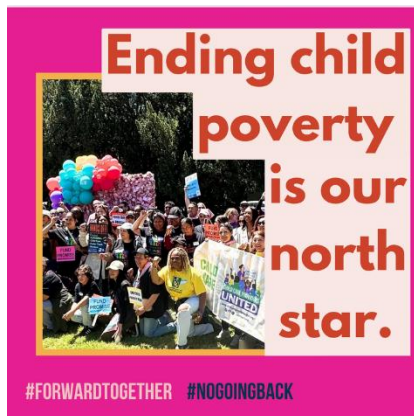
Your support made our advocacy possible. Thank you.

With your partnership, FCLCA continued to bring a voice of conscience to the state budget process and weighed in on over 120 bills in 2024.

FCLCA co-sponsored SB 1001, now signed into law, to ensure that California does not engage in cruel and unusual punishment by executing or sentencing people with intellectual disabilities to death, which the U.S. Supreme Court has held to be unconstitutional. This new law will allow a defendant to demonstrate to the court that they were intellectually disabled before the end of their developmental period.

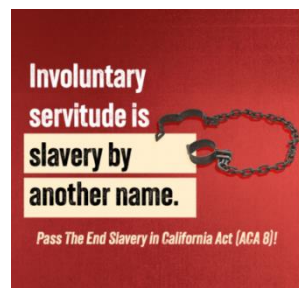


FCLCA played a key role in successfully stopping SB 1081, promoted by the federal Selective Service System, which would have forced people under age 26 to automatically register for the military draft when they applied for a California driver's license or I.D. card. An ad hoc coalition of Quaker organizations, immigrant rights groups, civil rights organizations, and peace and justice groups wrote letters, sent emails to legislators and lobbied intensively at the Capitol. Individual constituents sent over 1,000 messages of opposition to their legislators.



State Budget Advocacy 2024-25: In the face of a huge deficit and proposed cuts in vital programs, budget advocates including FCLCA carried out a six-month campaign to protect the progress made over the last few years. In the main, the safety net was protected, although some newer or proposed programs to help immigrants and low-income families were delayed. We successfully lobbied against cuts in the CalWORKs and CalFresh program; to maintain commitments to School Meals for All and to In-Home Supportive Services; to keep critical immigrant legal services; to

continue funding for the Multifamily Housing Program and Homeless Assistance Program and to provide continuous Medi-Cal coverage for young children. We advocated for cutting prison spending as a way to maintain safety net programs.



Criminal Justice Reform: FCLCA and coalition partners successfully opposed a number of bills this year that would have expanded incarceration. Among the many criminal justice reform bills that FCLCA supported, the Legislature passed ACA 8, placing it on the ballot and asking California voters to amend the state constitution to completely prohibit slavery and involuntary servitude and to prohibit the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation from disciplining an incarcerated person for refusing a work assignment.

FCLCA testified in support of AB 2499, which will now provide more support for victims of violence, increasing employment protections for survivors and their families and adding workplace accommodations.

A Landmark California Bill Would Ban These Six Chemicals in School Food



In the area of the environment, FCLCA supported two important bills signed by Gov. Newsom, SB 1053 and AB 2316. SB 1053 will prohibit the distribution of plastic bags at grocery store checkouts, strengthening California's role as a leader in tackling the global plastic pollution crisis. AB 2316 prohibits the use of six food dyes that have been known to harm children in food served in public schools. Some of these dyes have not been safety-tested by the Food and Drug Administration since the 1930s.



Inequities in health care and nutrition were among FCLCA's economic justice priorities in 2024. Health care reform had two significant victories: the governor signed SB 1061 which prohibits credit reporting agencies from placing medical debt on individuals' credit reports and AB 2297, which prohibits the use of home liens to collect unpaid medical bills and helps low- and moderate-income Californians receive medical debt relief. The governor signed SB 1089 to address food injustice by requiring advance notification to community stakeholders prior to the closure of a grocery store in underserved or at-risk communities, but vetoed AB 1975 to make medically necessary food and nutrition interventions a permanent part of Medi-Cal benefits in California. Both were part of the Legislative Black Caucus Reparations package.



Grassroots Advocacy

Constituents who communicate directly with their legislators are critical to getting good legislation passed. Your support in 2024 allowed us to mobilize members of the FCLCA Action Network who sent over 2,000 messages to Assembly Members, Senators, and the governor on key issues in response to action alerts. Each year that there are propositions on the ballot and voters become the legislators, FCLCA board members and volunteers meet to read, analyze, and discuss the measures and develop recommendations that we then publish and distribute. Your support allowed us to weigh in on the eleven ballot measures in 2024.

Thank you for making a difference! To donate or learn more, visit www.fclca.org



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