



RECOVER REFORM REBUILD

ADVOCACY AGENDA

ACCELERATE RECOVERY

Access Sacramento 2009 is a program of the L.A. Area Chamber's Accelerate Recovery initiative. Visit www.lachamber.com/recovery

RECOVER

396,000

California jobs created or saved in the next two years by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

REFORM

50th out of 50

California's 2008 business cost ranking, compared to the rest of the nation

45th out of 50

California's 2008 regulatory environment ranking, compared to the rest of the nation

REBUILD

\$40 billion

Estimated economic cost of a Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta failure

Statistical Sources: Recovery.gov; Forbes; Delta Vision Foundation

ACCESS SACRAMENTO

California's fiscal crisis has never been more urgent. Immediate steps are necessary to protect the state's financial integrity and to create the businesses and jobs that will put Californians back to work and generate the revenue needed by state and local governments. The Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce advocates for the following issues to recover, reform and rebuild California.

RECOVER

Maximize Federal Stimulus Investments to California

California is poised to receive billions in stimulus funding through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. These investments must be prioritized for projects which will maximize workforce development, job creation and stimulate economic recovery.

Act Immediately on Strategic Budget Cuts

Because of a pending cash crisis and the need for short-term borrowing, immediate budget cuts are necessary and appropriate. The Chamber does not however recommend the complete elimination of programs like Healthy Families and Cal Grants, which mitigate the shifting health care cost burden and ensure the state's long-term commitment to educating a 21st century workforce.

Pass SB 696 to Spur Southern California Job Creation

SB 696 is urgently needed to get Southern California's economy moving again. This bill reestablishes the South Coast Air Quality Management District's (SCAQMD) credit bank to continue the District's strict permitting program that protects public health while unfreezing the construction of essential job-creating facilities.

REFORM

Implement Performance-Based Budgeting

Implement performance-based budgeting (PBB) for the entire state budget. PBB is a proven method to ensure that public resources are spent as effectively as possible. This will require that all programs provide clear and measurable goals and establish objectives against which the taxpayers and state legislators can hold those programs accountable. PBB is successfully used in Florida and Washington, and is a critical component to restoring fiscal responsibility and public confidence in state government. (Support SB777; AB 1382)

Act Upon the Commission on the 21st Century Economy's Tax Reform Recommendations

Set the goal of fully and fairly evaluating all of the Commission on the 21st Century Economy's recommendations within 60 days of the report's release. Too often, special commission reports are shelved without any action or substantive review. Use this critical point in our state's fiscal climate to review the merits of every recommendation and implement sound improvements.

Establish a Blue Ribbon Commission to Evaluate Business Regulations

There is no mechanism to cumulatively review existing statutes and regulations that may stifle business growth, job creation and new tax revenue for state and local government. The Chamber supports the creation of a blue ribbon commission to review existing laws and regulations that impact California businesses. This is essential to growing more jobs and tax revenue.

Give School Districts Charter-like Flexibility and Autonomy to Compensate for Fiscal Crisis

Temporarily provide more categorical flexibility and modify various educational code restrictions so that California school districts can manage imminent layoffs and survive current budget constraints. Waiving restrictions for layoffs that trigger bumping rights for existing teachers, administrators and staff will be particularly important to minimizing district actions on students and learning, especially at the highest-need schools.

Build Multiple Pathways to Higher Education and Career Success

Integrate college prep with career and technical education to provide California students with multiple pathways to career opportunities and higher education. Encourage partnerships between school districts and community college districts to provide additional opportunities to high school students that result in increased college participation and completion. (Support AB 555, AB 8, AB 60)

REBUILD

Take Action on California's Water Supply

Water is the lifeblood of our state and our economy. Implementing the Delta Vision Plan immediately will ensure the sustainability and security of the vital Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. In addition to passing a long-term water bond, many of the Delta Vision Plan's recommendations can be implemented today even in the midst of the budget crisis.

Maintain Maximum Funding for State Transportation & Goods Movement Projects

California's transportation network is a key job and revenue creator for the state's economy. During the budget process, the state should prioritize transportation funding by maximizing federal stimulus money and not using it to backfill Proposition 1B funding. Streamline business costs, fees, tariffs and regulations to continue investment in high priority infrastructure projects.

Promote Increased Accountability for Student Performance and Learning Outcomes

Investment in a comprehensive education data system, as proposed by the McKinsey's Framework for a Comprehensive Education Data System in California, to inform program decisions and ensure cost-effective outcomes from our publicly funded education system. Create a Statewide Education Data Governing Board to oversee progress and results. (Support SB 19)

Develop Long Term Strategy for Funding Early and K-16 Education

Develop and sustain a comprehensive strategy to fund early and P-16 education to increase student achievement, reduce dropout rates and develop tomorrow's workforce while creating immediately needed jobs that can compete in the global economy.

CHAMBER-SPONSORED BILLS

K-12 PUBLIC EDUCATION

AB 332 Work-based Learning

Expands quality work-based learning programs for students by encouraging school districts and employers to create work-experience programs that reinforce academic learning.

Author: Assemblymember Felipe Fuentes

K-12 PUBLIC EDUCATION

AB 1223 Teacher Professional Development

Similar to Chamber-sponsored Bill SB 1677 (2008), this bill implements recommendations from the Legislative Analyst Office to provide teachers and administrators the preparation and professional development needed to implement Multiple Pathway programs, to integrate career technical education and academic content.

Author: Assemblymember Marty Block

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

AB 555 Accelerated Learning

Allows high school students to participate in concurrent enrollment programs, including more opportunities for advanced scholastic work, and career-technical partnerships and coursework.

Author: Assemblymembers Anthony Portantino and Warren Furutani



Los Angeles Area
Chamber of Commerce

ACCESS SACRAMENTO

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Los Angeles Area
Chamber of Commerce

350 S. Bixel St., Los Angeles, CA 90017

P: 213.580.7500 F: 213.580.7511

www.lachamber.com



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