REBUILD THE CALIFORNIA DREAM

California private-sector employers have added more than 1.3 million jobs since February 2010; but with an unemployment rate of more than 8 percent, we still have a long way to go before our economy is fully recovered. In order to strengthen California’s economic competitiveness and ensure continued job growth, it is essential to address our regulatory environment, which stifies and discourages economic growth and investment, our aging water, energy and transportation infrastructure, our inadequate health care delivery and housing, and our underperforming public education system. The Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce stands ready to help State leaders rethink, re-envision and rebuild the institutions that made California great — our systems of public and private infrastructure, natural resource management, health care delivery and education finance.

We can rebuild the California dream by:

- Reducing and streamlining regulations to provide certainty for job creators
- Securing a reliable water supply for the State by adopting the Bay Delta Conservation Plan
- Supporting investments in transportation by adopting policies that empower local governments to identify and deliver the projects and programs that best improve regional mobility
- Building a strong innovation economy by spurring entrepreneurial behavior and creating incentives for technology companies to grow
- Maintaining a positive business environment for providers and increase access to quality health care
- Encouraging the redevelopment of our educational system through a cradle-to-career approach

---

48th California’s ranking on the 2013 state business tax climate index

2.3 million the number of additional college graduates needed to meet the workforce demands of 2025

1.5 million the number of California residents who are currently unemployed

25 million number of people in California that depend on Bay Delta water

$60,032 vs. $8,219 The amount California spends per year per inmate vs. per K-12 student

---

The amount California spends per year per inmate vs. per K-12 student
STRENGTHEN CALIFORNIA’S ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS

Invest in Job Growth
California needs to make strategic investments in core sectors of its economy to retain jobs, businesses and tax revenues.

- **Support: AB 1839 (Gatto)** to prevent “runaway production” and create tens of thousands of motion picture and television production jobs in California by extending the successful film tax credit program five years.
- **Support: AB 777 (Muratsuchi)** to avoid placing a burdensome tax liability on a signature and innovative L.A. industry — aerospace — by clarifying that propulsion systems should not be taxed as business supplies.
- **Support: AB 1102 (Allen)** to protect thousands of tourism jobs by allowing the use of beach fire rings in the South Coast Basin.
- **Support: AB 2095 (Wagner)** to discourage bad faith litigation regarding alleged technical violations that have not injured the employee by awarding an employer attorney’s fees if the lawsuit is proven to be frivolous, unreasonable or without foundation.

Provide Certainty for Job Creators
California’s economic recovery continues to improve, and we should not disrupt that momentum with mandates and policies that will increase costs for California businesses and place them at a competitive disadvantage.

- **Oppose: AB 2372 (Ammiano) & SB 1021 (Wolk)** to maintain the certainty of Proposition 13 and reduce the fluctuation of costs for California commercial property owners and tenants.
- **Oppose: SB 1000 (Monning) & SB 1381 (Evans)** to prevent unnecessary and costly labeling and taxes on food and beverages.
- **Oppose: AB 2589 (Bloom)** to prevent multiple counties from imposing varying and duplicative annual registration fees on manufacturers and distribution centers.
- **Oppose: AB 1522 (Gonzalez)** to prevent a significant increase in costs for businesses and consumers by requiring employers to provide any employee who has worked in California for seven days with paid sick leave.
- **Oppose: AB 2284 (Williams)** which requires non-rechargeable battery producers to design, fund and operate a stewardship program to manage batteries, in order to sell their products in California.

MAINTAIN ENERGY RELIABILITY AND AFFORDABILITY

Reliable and affordable energy is critical to the health of the State’s economy. The Chamber supports policies that maximize domestic energy supplies and job growth, minimize energy costs for families and businesses and reduce pollution in the most cost-effective manner possible.

- **Support: AB 1763 (Perea)** to develop a strategic and comprehensive state energy plan for 2030 and 2050.
- **Support: AB 1907 (Ridley-Thomas)** to continue the growth of the natural gas vehicle industry by requiring natural gas sold as a motor vehicle fuel to be sold in a gasoline gallon equivalent.
- **Oppose: SB 1017 (Evans) & SB 1132 (Mitchell)** to prevent higher energy costs for families and businesses and maintain the competitiveness of California’s economy.
- **Ensure: L.A. receives an equitable portion of the proceeds derived from the State cap-and-trade program. The majority of those funds should be invested in freight and goods movement infrastructure, technology advancement and cost containment programs for businesses.**
INVEST IN OUR AGING INFRASTRUCTURE

Secure a Reliable Water Supply
A reliable water supply is essential to maintaining California’s status as the world’s ninth largest economy. Local and State water supply systems that support California’s residents, businesses and agriculture are in dire need of repair, restoration and investment.

► Support: Bay Delta Conservation Plan Alternative #4 to improve the long-term reliability of California’s water supply.
► Improve: State’s drought resiliency and water supply reliability by providing sufficient water bond funding for groundwater cleanup, storage, Delta ecosystem restoration and the development of local resources.

Support L.A.’s Investments in Transportation
L.A. residents have approved several local tax measures and projects to pay for the maintenance and expansion of their regional transportation system. The Chamber supports policies that empower local governments to identify and deliver the projects and programs that best improve mobility in their region.

► Support: SB 1298 (Hernandez) to permanently reauthorize ExpressLanes on State Highway Routes 10 and 110 and to create a pathway for approving new lanes in L.A. County, including local control of toll revenues for reinvestment in the local corridor.
► Oppose: AB 1941 (Holden) to protect the representation of L.A. county residents on the L.A. County Metropolitan Transportation Authority board.
► Support: AB 577 (Nazarian) to lift the ban on the construction of a mass transportation rail project in the San Fernando Valley.
► Support: ACA 8 (Blumenfield) to provide local governments with more flexibility needed to fund critical infrastructure.
► Modernize: Congestion Management Plan Statute (1990) to reflect new, more effective and sustainable methods of managing growth.

BUILD A STRONG INNOVATION ECONOMY

The Chamber is committed to ensuring that California’s technology ecosystem – including universities and community colleges, the Hollywood fueled digital media sector and talented entrepreneurs – thrives and creates new jobs for a new generation of Californians. We encourage the State to make investments in open data to spur entrepreneurial behavior, encourage agencies to allow more demonstration projects by innovation companies, and create incentives for technology companies to grow.

► Support: AB 2670 (Medina) to ensure the continued prosperity of California’s small businesses by establishing the California Small Business Development Center in statute and designating the Governor’s Office of Business and Economic Development as the lead state entity for oversight. The stability provided by this bill will directly benefit small business technology centers across the state.

► Oppose: SB 383 (Jackson) which discourages online commerce by inconveniencing and confusing California based costumers of online downloads and placing onerous burdens on companies involved with such lines of business.
► Oppose: SB 962 (Leno) which would limit consumer choice and impact mobile phone and broadband companies at the forefront of innovative communications technologies.
► Support: AB 2350 (Bonilla) to increase the number of women in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) careers by building more supportive family leave policies among institutions of higher education.
► Support: ACA 108 (Blumenfield) to provide local governments with more flexibility needed to fund critical infrastructure.
► Modernize: Congestion Management Plan Statute (1990) to reflect new, more effective and sustainable methods of managing growth.
SUPPORT BUSINESS-FRIENDLY IMPLEMENTATION OF HEALTH CARE REFORM

To ensure California remains the national leader on health care reform implementation, we must maintain a positive business environment for providers and increase access to quality care.

In order to realize the desired job creation, economic growth, and improved public health from Affordable Care Act implementation, the Chamber supports policies which maintain network adequacy and help stabilize rates.

- **Support:** AB 1759 (Pan) and AB 1805 (Skinner) to allow Medi-Cal provider rates to remain at a rate not less than 100 percent of Medicare and reverse damaging Medi-Cal reimbursement rate cuts. As millions of Californians gain access to Medi-Cal, it is critical to provide adequate access to care.

- **Oppose:** SB 1094 (Lara) which would allow the attorney general to amend an approved nonprofit hospital transaction even after the conditions of implementation are announced, thereby greatly reducing certainty around transactions.

- **Oppose:** AB 503 (Bonta/Wiecowski) and AB 1952 (Pan) which create severe and unattainable standards for charity care and lengthen the process of approval of community benefit programs at nonprofit hospitals, resulting in possible hospital shut downs and reductions in network adequacy.

- **Support:** SB 1034 (Monning) to align California’s allowable waiting period with the federal standard, thereby reducing confusion around health care benefits administration.

- **Support:** Changes to the State income tax code to incentivize adoption of Health Savings Accounts as a key driver of employee choice and cost savings.

- **Support:** Easy access to high-quality care and health benefits for children with chronic illnesses.

PROVIDE ADEQUATE HOUSING TO REDUCE HOMELESSNESS AND CREATE JOBS

The Chamber is a co-partner with the United Way of Greater Los Angeles on implementing Home For Good, a public-private initiative to end chronic and veteran homelessness in L.A. county. The collective efforts have housed more than 10,000 formerly chronically homeless and veteran individuals into permanent supportive housing. The Chamber supports policies, which provide cost-effective opportunities for reductions in the population of chronically homeless and veterans while creating jobs for the housing sector.

- **Support:** SB 391 (DeSaulnier), the Homes and Jobs Act, which leverages a $75 recording fee on real estate transaction documents, excluding home sales, to raise $525 million annually to create affordable housing and permanent supportive housing for the chronically homeless. The bill will create 29,000 jobs statewide and generate more than $3 billion in state and federal investments.

- **Support:** AB 1733 (Quirk-Silva, Atkins, Maienschein) which will help connect people experiencing homelessness to state and federally funded programs more quickly by waiving the fee for certified birth records and state-issued photo identification. These costs serve as barriers to quickly accessing permanent supportive housing.

- **Support:** SB 1451 (Hill) which would decrease the occurrence of the “document dumping” in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process, which can delay proceedings by two weeks or months after late comments are received. One of the barriers to increasing California’s housing stock is CEQA and reform is overdue.
STRENGTHEN CALIFORNIA’S CRADLE-TO-CAREER EDUCATION SYSTEM

In 2013, the California Legislature took bold steps to address the critical challenges facing school districts across the State. Investments in innovative approaches such as Common Core, Next Generation Science Standards, Local Control Funding Formula, Career Pathways Trust Fund, Smarter Balanced Assessments and AB 790 Linked Learning pilots are paving the way for the evolution of California public schools. When the State spends $60,032 per year per inmate and $8,219 per K-12 student, we know that more needs to be done to end the school-to-prison pipeline that hinders the State’s ability to reach its true economic potential. We support the California Legislature in its attempts to build on this much-needed momentum for innovation and encourage a steadfast course in the redevelopment of our educational system through a cradle-to-career approach.

Investment and Expansion
The Chamber understands the importance of investment in early learning and its effectiveness in increasing high school graduation and college attendance, increasing safety, decreasing crime, and building a stronger economy and middle class. For this reason, the Chamber supports legislation that expands quality early childhood education for children, birth through five years old, and addresses children’s wellness including childhood obesity prevention.

Implementation and Support
The Chamber supports strong and effective implementation of the new 21st century assessments and accountability system for the K-16 system and efforts to revitalize the teaching profession to ensure student success. Additionally, the Chamber is committed to exploring alternatives for our disconnected and adjudicated youth by supporting reform policies that will increase and support more opportunities for seamless reintegration into education and the workforce. For this reason, the Chamber is a staunch supporter of policies to improve post-secondary student success outcomes, expand access and eligibility for financial aid, and enact workforce development strategies that better prepare all workers, including the long-term unemployed, incumbent workers, dislocated workers and adjudicated workers, to compete in the global economy. Additionally, the Chamber supports clear and open accountability systems that provide access to student success data and the development of comprehensive P-16 career pathways that create a systemic approach to meeting the needs of high-demand industry sectors.

System Coordination and Competitiveness
The Chamber supports policies to improve post-secondary student success outcomes, expand access and eligibility for financial aid, and enact workforce development strategies that better prepare all workers, including the long-term unemployed, incumbent workers, dislocated workers and adjudicated workers, to compete in the global economy. Additionally, the Chamber supports clear and open accountability systems that provide access to student success data and the development of comprehensive P-16 career pathways that create a systemic approach to meeting the needs of high-demand industry sectors.

Education and Workforce Legislative Priorities

- **Support:** Chamber co-sponsored SB 837 (Steinberg) which would make high quality transitional kindergarten available to every four-year-old in California.
- **Support:** Chamber co-sponsored SB 1123 (Liu) to support more full-day preschool for children from birth through age three.
- **Support:** Chamber co-sponsored SB 1264 (Pavley) to provide financial support for teachers who choose to teach in the lowest performing elementary and secondary schools.
- **Support:** AB 1756 (Skinner), which would eliminate the record-sealing fee for young people under the age of 26.
- **Support:** Chamber-sponsored SB 1022 (Huff) requires California State University and requests that University of California publicly provide labor market outcomes for recent graduates.
- **Support:** SB 174 & SB 798 (de León) creates a College Access Tax Credit Fund to increase annual Cal Grant B awards for low-income students.
- **Support:** Restoring full Cal Grant funding levels for qualifying students attending non-profit private colleges and universities.
- **Support:** AB 1451 (Holden) authorizes the creation of partnerships between school districts and community colleges to expand concurrent enrollment policies.
- **Support:** SB 1425 (Block) to require the California Community Colleges to facilitate annual degree audits to retroactively award degrees to qualifying students, and inform students near graduation of remaining requirements.
- **Adopt:** A “shared investment” strategy to expand Career Technical Education in high-priority fields by providing matching resources to encourage regional collaboration and higher levels of regional public-private investment.

Innovation and Modernization: The Linked Learning Approach
The Chamber supports the Linked Learning approach for K-16 education, which integrates rigorous academics with career-based learning and real world workplace experience in a wide range of fields, including a focus on STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) and the arts. Linked Learning coupled with the new Common Core standards and Next Generation Science Standards will ensure that our students are well equipped for both college and career.
THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

GOLD

PACIFIC FEDERAL
Southern California Edison
Time Warner Cable
Let’s Go Places

SILVER

AT&T
Automobile Club of Southern California
Cedars-Sinai Health System
Chevron Corporation
Majestic Realty Co.
Metro

Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Port of Long Beach
Port of Los Angeles
Siemens Corporation
Southern California Edison

BRONZE

BNSF Railway Company
City of Hope - Medical Center
First 5 LA
JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.
Mercury Air Group, Inc.
Verizon - Southern California

PARTNER

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA LEADERSHIP NETWORK

List as of 04.29.14