



Los Angeles Area
Chamber of Commerce

June 1-2, 2010

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Make California Job-Friendly

California lost more than one million jobs during the Great Recession. Now is the time to address key business issues essential to ensuring near-term job creation and long-term economic prosperity.

JOBS & BUSINESS CLIMATE

Provide Certainty for California Job Creators: Businesses need certainty about taxes before making long-term jobs investment decisions. Oppose SB 1272 (Wolk), which would require all future-enacted investment incentives to sunset after seven years.

Require Jobs Impact Analysis for Proposed Regulations: Pass AB 2529 (Fuentes) to require the State auditor to conduct an economic analysis of new regulatory proposals. This information is critical to understanding the job impact of new regulations.

Support Small Business Contracting: Pass AB 1771 (Mendoza) to promote new opportunities for small businesses by allowing state departments to award contracts of less than \$25,000 for goods or services by certified small businesses without seeking an exemption of the Prison Industry Authority (PIA) mandate if they are able to make the product for less than the PIA.

Oppose Split-Roll Property Tax: Pursuing a split-roll property tax will hurt all California businesses, especially small business owners. Oppose efforts to increase taxes at the worst time in our economy.

Modernize the State's Outdated Workplace Rules: The Legislature has failed to improve meal/rest period rules and has not made it easier for employees to choose flexible workweek schedules. These two issues are real examples of California's failure to replace "one-size fits all" workplace regulations with modern workplace protections that recognize the State's diverse economy. Without reasonable improvements in these two areas, California will continue to be an expensive and unfriendly state in which to work and create jobs.

70,009



California **jobs funded** by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act during the first three months of 2010

ACCESS SACR

ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION

Responsibly Implement Environmental Regulations: The Legislature must act upon the valid concerns of job creators throughout California about AB 32 implementation.

- ▶ Pass AB 2561 (Villines) to streamline government by consolidating the State's various commissions, divisions, authorities, offices and departments with responsibility for energy policy into a new California Department of Energy.
- ▶ Require the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to provide a detailed, sector-specific jobs impact analysis of their implementation plan.
- ▶ Recognize that implementation without adjusting for the deep recession can significantly hurt working families in California.

Stop CEQA Abuse: The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) must be fixed to ensure the law's original intent while preventing abuse of the process. Existing CEQA exceptions are so broad that they undermine the exemptions. Streamlining the review process and protecting projects from frivolous litigation will create jobs and speed economic recovery.

- ▶ Pass AB 1805 (Calderon) and SB 1010 (Correa) to protect a limited number of environmentally-sound projects from CEQA lawsuits. This will allow projects that meet CEQA requirements to break ground and create jobs quickly.
- ▶ Pass AB 1846 (Perez) to allow use of a "focused" environmental impact report for installation of pollution control equipment that reduces greenhouse gas emissions.

Require Small Business Voice on CARB Board: Support AB 2328 (Niello) to require that one public appointee on the CARB Board is a small business owner. An employer perspective will provide an important outlook when drafting regulations that significantly impact small businesses.



Ensure Smart Investments in California's Future

As lawmakers make difficult deficit reduction decisions, we urge special care to preserve and promote vital programs and projects that are smart investments in California's future.

TRANSPORTATION & GOODS MOVEMENT

Protect Transportation Funding: Maintain maximum funding for transit, goods movement and highway projects. This includes ensuring that voter-approved transportation bonds are sold to provide necessary financing.

Promote Goods Movement Competitiveness: Pass AB 2687 (Bradford) to allow our State's seaports access to tax credits for their investments in infrastructure and sustainability projects.

Support Public Private Partnerships and Design Build: Support SB 879 (Cox) to extend a county's ability to authorize design-build projects. Encourage cities and counties to explore creative funding alternatives to repair aging and build new infrastructure.

Flexibility in Airport Financing: Pass SB 1192 (Oropeza) to allow California airports the flexibility to modify the current \$10 per contract rental car fee or use an alternative method. This change will help Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) build a consolidated rental car facility that will create 1,000 jobs, improve the environment and reduce traffic congestion.

51
out of
51



California's **ranking on the list of best & worst business-friendly states**, as compared to the rest of the nation and Washington, D.C.

chiefexecutive.net

30,725

to the **Citizens Redistricting Commission** established by Proposition 11.

Number of initial applicants



wedrawthelines.ca.gov

AMENTO



HEALTH CARE

Prioritize Health Care Reductions: Maintain program funding for our most vulnerable populations – children and seniors. This includes the Adult Day Health Care (ADHC) program and Healthy Families. Support programs that draw matching federal dollars to prevent a double-hit to vital programs, which will provide far greater savings in long-term health and public services costs.

Support Health Savings Accounts Conformity: Pass AB 2041 (Villines) to ensure that California joins 45 other states in conforming to federal tax law for Health Savings Accounts (HSA) to aid thousands of Californians that have chosen an HSA.

Preserve South L.A. Preservation Fund: Support SB 1409 (Price) to extend funding for safety-net clinics and hospitals in the former Martin Luther King, Jr. Hospital service area in South Los Angeles. Earmark portion of those funds for private community clinics in the MLK-Harbor Hospital area.



Reform State Government for California's Future

California's budget crisis is exacerbated by the failure to modernize and reform state government. Now is the best opportunity to make the necessary improvements.

Develop a Statewide Economic Growth Strategy: Lead the charge to craft an economic development plan that provides specific actions to create long-term job growth in California. Include collaboration among state agencies and the private sector, as well as a coordinated outreach strategy to attract new investment to the State.

Fix the Broken Public Pension System: California's public pension system is unsustainable and threatens our State's fiscal health for years to come. Bold leadership and urgent action is needed to understand the full crisis and begin to make the necessary improvements including:

- ▶ Stop the inaccurate 8 percent annual return assumption, pension smoothing and widening the asset value corridor to make short-term liabilities appear better, but only extend greater liability onto future taxpayers.
- ▶ Work with stakeholders to establish a new tier of pension benefits for future employees that are more responsible and in line with retirement plans in the private sector.

Implement Responsible Budgeting: Implement a two-year budget cycle for better long-term planning and transition into a performance-based budgeting process that require all programs to provide clear, measurable goals and objectives against which taxpayers and lawmakers can hold those programs accountable.

Oppose Efforts to Roll Back Proposition 11: Oppose efforts to hijack the Citizens Redistricting Commission before it begins the work approved by California voters in 2008. The Chamber was proud to join Common Cause, League of Women Voters and AARP as original proponents of the initiative.

\$493 billion

annual cost of California's state regulations on businesses

V&T Study, California State University, available on sba.ca.gov



479

Number of California education programs which already reflect the Linked Learning approach

ConnectEd and UC Berkeley





Strengthen California's Education System

Maximizing student achievement is the best investment we can make in the economic future of our state. The L.A. Area Chamber

is proud to be a nationally-recognized leader in education and workforce development policy.

Develop Long-Term Strategy for Funding Early and P-20

Education: Develop and sustain a comprehensive strategy to fund early and P-20 education to increase student achievement, reduce dropout rates and develop tomorrow's workforce while immediately creating jobs.

Strengthen Early Childhood Education: Opposes the proposed budget cuts to childcare and development programs. The development of a quality rating system AB 2592 (Buchanan) and the collaboration of higher education segments addressing transfer agreements SB 1126 (Liu) will strengthen early care programs and increase future economic growth.

Develop the Linked Learning Approach for K-12 Students: Help connect learning with students' interests and career aspirations by investing in Linked Learning (formerly called Multiple Pathways). Linked Learning transforms students' high school experience by bringing together strong academics, demanding technical education and real-world experience, in order to help educate a more highly trained, flexible workforce.

- ▶ Support and pass Chamber-sponsored package of four Linked Learning bills including: AB 1223 (Block), AB 2172 (Carter), AB 2211 (Fuentes) and AB 2445 (Furutani).
- ▶ Implement the Multiple Pathways to Student Success, Envisioning the New California High School Report released by the California Department of Education, authorized by AB 2648 (Bass) in 2008.

Encourage Flexibility in Local District Reforms: Allow school districts to shape their teacher workforce in order to maximize effectiveness and better adjust to the current budget crisis. Advance the discussion regarding transforming the California teacher and administrator evaluation and support system, SB 955 (Huff) and AB 2219 (Fuentes).

Support Higher Education as an Investment in the Future: Increase investment in higher education, while at the same time, focus on higher rates of graduation and the successful completion of degree requirements, SB 1143 (Liu). Maintain full funding for the California CalGrant program.

2010 Chamber-Sponsored Legislation

K-12 PUBLIC EDUCATION

AB 1223 (Block) Supports teacher development, understanding and implementation of applied learning strategies in the classroom, as well as creates a visible teacher pipeline for Linked Learning (formerly called Multiple Pathways) throughout California.

AB 2172 (Carter) Creates a Linked Learning Advisory Board that would establish the Linked Learning approach as a foundational high school transformation model and emphasize the importance of linking academic content with real world application within the classroom so students can be successful in a 21st century global economy.

AB 2211 (Fuentes) Expands quality work-based learning programs by promoting more partnerships between districts and employers across the State including internships, job shadowing and work experience opportunities. This legislation would also require the State Board of Education to adopt model standards to ensure quality implementation in authentic exposure to the real world of work.

AB 2445 (Furutani) Establishes a Linked Learning high school pilot program that would allow participating districts to implement a district-wide Linked Learning approach in all high schools, incorporating strategies such as small schools, problem-based instruction methods and applied learning throughout all subject areas. This would demonstrate the effectiveness of Linked Learning, allowing this model to be replicated.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

SB 1143 (Liu) Establishes a framework for allocating state funds to community colleges in a manner that provides incentives for community colleges to assist students in completing coursework in which they enroll and are required to earn a certificate or degree.



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