

ALERT

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CalChamber Endorses Meg Whitman for Governor



Meg Whitman

President and CEO Allan Zaremberg announced:

"The CalChamber Board of Directors voted to endorse Meg Whitman in the California gubernatorial race.

"For the business community as

The California Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors has voted to endorse Meg Whitman for Governor.

Upon the conclusion of the CalChamber Board meeting on September 3,

well as the electorate, job creation and economic recovery are the most important issues and it is clear Meg Whitman most closely reflects the views of those who make private sector job creation their first priority.

"Many of our board members expressed confidence in having a person with business experience run the state. CalChamber supports Meg Whitman's priority of removing barriers to private sector job creation and creating certainty for those who wish to invest in our state."

More information about CalChamber positions on the General Election ballot measures is available at www.calchamber.com/ballot.

'Job Killer' Bills Awaiting Action by Governor



In the closing days of the legislative session, 11 California Chamber of Commerce-opposed "job killer" bills passed the Legislature.

A 12th "job killer" passed the Legislature in mid July and was vetoed by the Governor a couple of weeks later.

The following bills await action by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger:

Costly Workplace Mandates

● **AB 482 (Mendoza; D-Norwalk) Expanded Employer Liability.** Increases exposure to liability for hiring decisions by unduly restricting the ability of employers to base employment decisions on the evaluation of all legally available information, including consumer credit reports.

● **AB 2187 (Arambula; I-Fresno) Expanded Employer Liability.** Creates a significant disincentive to locate jobs and operations in California by potentially criminalizing almost any legitimate wage dispute with a terminated employee that takes longer than 90 days to resolve.

● **SB 145 (DeSaulnier; D-Concord) Workers' Compensation Apportionment.** Erodes recent workers'

See 'Job Killer': Page 4

Two Job Creator Bills Go to Governor



In the final days of the legislative session, two California Chamber of Commerce-

supported job creator bills passed the Legislature. Now awaiting action by the Governor are:

● **AB 2098 (Miller; R-Corona) Increases Construction Jobs.**

Authorizes Riverside County Transportation Commission to use design-build to construct a portion of State Highway 91, thus putting more jobs on the ground more quickly. Although design-build is not appropriate in all cases, for instances that do fit, projects

can be completed more quickly and at a lower cost than through traditional design-bid-build contracting.

● **SB 1192 (Oropeza; D-Long Beach) Increases Construction Jobs.** Creates construction jobs building travel infrastructure and creates a better travel environment for state business and tourism. By allowing airport operators the authority to access increased consumer facility charges, SB 1192 will alleviate traffic congestion, saving travelers valuable time and reducing air pollution.

Action Needed

The CalChamber is urging members to contact the Governor and ask him to sign AB 2098 and SB 1192.

Staff Contact: Marc Burgat

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Labor Law Corner

New Workers' Compensation Notice Must Be Posted by October 8



Erika Frank
General Counsel

Is the state requiring new workers' compensation notices?

Yes. California's Department of Workers' Compensation (DWC) released regulations that require all employers within the state to post a new *Notice to Employees—Injuries Caused by Work*. Employers must post this notice, in a conspicuous location frequented by employees, by October 8, 2010.

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Home page: www.calchamber.com.*

Failure to post the notice by the October deadline can result in a misdemeanor and up to \$7,000 in civil penalties.

Employers must also distribute a new *Your Rights to Workers' Compensation Benefits* pamphlet to all new employees who start to work on or after October 8, 2010, at the time of hire or before the end of the first pay period.

Required by October 8

All California employers must:

- Post the new version of the *Notice to Employees—Injuries Caused by Work* (dated 6/10/10) by October 8, 2010.

- Distribute a new *Your Rights to Workers' Compensation Benefits* pamphlet to all new employees who start to work on or after October 8, 2010, at the time of hire or before the end of the first pay period.

Medical Provider Networks

Employers within an existing Medical Provider Network (MPN) must also:

- Create a complete MPN Notice and post it next to the revised *Notice to Employees—Injuries Caused by Work* poster by October 8, 2010. The complete MPN Notice is described in the CalChamber's *Workers' Compensation Final Regulations Q & A* document, available on HRCalifornia.com.

- Give the same complete MPN Notice you've created to any employee injured at work on or after October 8, 2010.

Employers who are implementing,

changing or terminating an MPN must also:

- Post a complete MPN Notice next to the *Notice to Employees—Injuries Caused by Work* poster by October 8, 2010. The complete MPN Notice is described in the CalChamber's *Workers' Compensation Final Regulations Q & A* document, available on HRCalifornia.com.

- Give the complete MPN Notice to any employee injured at work on or after October 8, 2010.

- Give all employees notice that you are implementing, terminating or changing the MPN.

Poster Protect

Current CalChamber customers who purchased the Poster Protect service for 2010 will receive the updated poster in the mail no later than October 8, 2010. Customers will, however, need to purchase the updated workers' compensation pamphlets. They are available at \$15 for a pack of 20.

The CalChamber is encouraging customers to purchase Poster Protect for 2011, as there may be updates to the *2011 California Employment Notices Poster*.

For more information or to purchase a poster or pamphlet, call (800) 331-8877 or visit www.calbizcentral.com.

The Labor Law Helpline is a service to California Chamber of Commerce preferred and executive members. For expert explanations of labor laws and Cal/OSHA regulations, not legal counsel for specific situations, call (800) 348-2262 or submit your question at www.hrcalifornia.com.

CalChamber-Sponsored Seminars/Trade Shows

More information at
www.calchamber.com/events.

Business Resources

Northern California Water Tour. Water Education Foundation. September 22–24, Sacramento. (916) 444-6240.

Entrepreneurial Institute. National Black MBA Association. September 24, Los Angeles. (312) 580-8569.

2010 Aerotech Expo Job Fair. Aerotech News and Review. September 25, Lancaster. (877) 247-9288.

Green Initiatives Conference. Fidelity

One Conferences. September 29–30, Atlanta. (404) 865-1438.

Second Annual California Sustainable Tourism Summit. California Travel and Tourism Commission.

See CalChamber-Sponsored: Page 4

**Next Alert:
September 24**



Governor Signs Legislation to Streamline Environmental Review for AB 32 Projects



A California Chamber of Commerce-supported job creator bill that has the

dual benefit of facilitating job creation while ensuring environmental integrity has been signed by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger.

AB 1846 (M. Pérez; D-Coachella) streamlines the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) approval process for certain projects by allowing industries subject to compliance with greenhouse gas regulations under AB 32 to go through an expedited environmental review through a focused environmental impact report (EIR).

Ambitious Goals

California is aggressively working

to meet its ambitious environmental goals set forth by AB 32, The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006. As regulations are being adopted to reduce California’s greenhouse gas emission levels, companies subject to compliance with these regulations must make significant modifications to existing facilities in order to reduce emissions in compliance with the law.

By law, greenhouse gas regulations must be adopted by January 1, 2011, so companies have a short timeframe to become AB 32 compliant. In order to make infrastructure changes, these companies must go through the necessary CEQA permitting process before construction of significant project modifications/upgrades can begin.

Since the CEQA process can be arduous, often marked by delays and great expense to business, it is important

that the state look for ways to help streamline this process in order to help industries meet their AB 32 goals in a timely manner.

Expedited Review

AB 1846 provides such a path by requiring an expedited environmental review of greenhouse gas compliance projects through a focused EIR.

Specifically, this bill will clarify and streamline the CEQA process for projects required to comply with emission reduction regulations under AB 32. This process will eliminate unnecessary layers of environmental review for specific projects without compromising necessary environmental review.

AB 1846 will take effect on January 1, 2011.

Staff Contact: Brenda M. Coleman

CalChamber Positions on November Ballot Propositions

Proposition	Subject	Position
Proposition 18	Safe, Clean and Reliable Drinking Water Supply Act of 2010	Moved to 2012 ballot
Proposition 19	Regulate, Control and Tax Cannabis Act of 2010	Oppose
Proposition 20	Redistricting of Congressional Districts—Voters FIRST Act for Congress	Support
Proposition 21	\$18 Vehicle License Surcharge to Help Fund State Parks/Wildlife Programs	No Position
Proposition 22	Local Taxpayer, Public Safety and Transportation Protection Act	Support
Proposition 23	Suspends Implementation of Air Pollution Control Law (AB 32)	No Position
Proposition 24	Repeal Corporate Tax Loopholes Act	Oppose
Proposition 25	On Time Budget Act of 2010	Oppose
Proposition 26	Stop Hidden Taxes Initiative	Support
Proposition 27	Eliminates State Commission on Redistricting	Oppose

'Job Killer' Bills Awaiting Action by Governor Schwarzenegger

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compensation reforms and leads to higher premiums for California employers by undercutting fair and reasonable provisions in current law that protect an employer from paying for disability that was not caused by a workplace accident.

● **SB 1474 (Steinberg; D-Sacramento) Increased Agricultural Costs.** Designed to increase union representation of agricultural employees even when it is against the will of employees by undermining the process that now guarantees, through secret-ballot elections, a fair vote and the expression of agricultural employees' true sentiments on the selection of a collective bargaining representative. This act will hurt California's businesses by driving up costs, making employers less competitive in a global market.

Economic Development Barriers

● **AB 1405 (De León; D-Los Angeles) Climate Change Tax Increase.** Increases costs and discourages job growth by granting the Air Resources Board broad authority to implement unlimited fees and taxes with little or no oversight.

● **SB 967 (Correa; D-Santa Ana) Restricts Business Options.** Limits choice and drives up prices for consumers and for state and local government by

providing a preference to bidders who commit that 90 percent of the work will be performed by California employees.

● **SB 1272 (Wolk; D-Davis) Discourages Investment.** Creates uncertainty for California employers making long-term investment decisions by requiring all future-enacted investment incentives to sunset after seven years.

Inflated Liability Costs

● **AB 1680 (Saldaña; D-San Diego) Interferes with Contractual Agreements.** Burdens businesses with unnecessary litigation costs and slows down resolution of disputes by presumptively invalidating arbitration agreements in an otherwise voluntary contract if the underlying claim involves a possible hate crime.

● **AB 2773 (Swanson; D-Alameda) Undermines Judicial Discretion.** Unreasonably increases business litigation costs by limiting judicial discretion to reduce or deny exorbitant legal fees in fair employment and housing cases.

Unrestrained Government Control

● **AB 1602 (John A. Pérez; D-Los Angeles) Unrestrained Government Control.** AB 1602, together with SB 900, prematurely creates overly broad

and expansive governance and guidelines without oversight for the state health benefit exchange, which could lead to unnecessary cost increases and limited choice for employers.

● **SB 900 (Alquist; D-Santa Clara) Unrestrained Government Control.** SB 900, together with AB 1602, prematurely creates overly broad and expansive governance and guidelines without oversight for the state health benefit exchange, which could lead to unnecessary cost increases and limited choice for employers.

Vetoed

Vetoed by the Governor on July 28 was:

● **SB 1121 (Florez; D-Shafter) Harms California Farms and Farm Workers.** Places farms at a competitive disadvantage, increases cost of doing business for California farmers, and reduces available resources to invest in workers and farms by removing overtime exemption for agricultural employees.

Action Needed

The CalChamber is urging members to contact the Governor and ask him to veto the "job killer" bills listed above.

Sample letters are available at www.calchambervotes.com.
Staff Contact: Marc Burgat

CalChamber-Sponsored Seminars/Trade Shows

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October 14–15, Lake Tahoe.
(916) 319-5426.

Labor Law

HRCalifornia Guided Site Tour
(Free Webinar). CalBizCentral.
September 22. (800) 331-8877.

International Trade

U.S.-Asia Expo 2010. U.S. Asia Business
Forum. September 17–19,
Los Angeles. (562) 607-2861.

Trade Mission to Africa. National
U.S.-Arab Chamber of Commerce.
September 20–30, Libya, Tunisia,
Algeria. (202) 289-5920.

Business Mission to Dubai. Chester
County Chamber of Business and

Industry. September 21–28, Dubai.
(610) 725-9100.

Green Information and Communication
Technology and Energy Trade Mission
to Mexico City. U.S. Commercial
Service. September 27–29, Mexico
City. Aliza.Totayo@trade.gov.

U.S.-Sri Lanka: Private-Public
Partnership. Sri Lanka Embassy-
WDC. October 13–14, Sri Lanka.
(202) 483-4029.

Cambodia Industry Shows. Merebo
Messe Marketing. October 21–23,
Phnom Penh, Cambodia.
contact@merebo.com.

Deal-Making Clean Tech Trade Mission
to China. Monterey Bay International

Trade Association. October 23–30,
Shanghai, China. (831) 335-4780.

Americas Business Trade Mission.
U.S. Commercial Service of the
International Trade Administration,
U.S. Department of Commerce.
October 25–28, Mexico City and
Monterrey, Mexico. (310) 235-7205.
International Buyer-Seller Meeting 2010.
Sri Lanka Consulate. October 28–29,
Colombo, Sri Lanka. (213) 387-0214.

CalChamber Calendar

Public Affairs Council Post-Election Retreat:
November 10–12

Korean Ambassador Highlights Trade Agreement at CalChamber Forum

Final approval of the California Chamber of Commerce-**supported** U.S.-Korea Free Trade Agreement (FTA) will create American jobs, His Excellency Duk-Soo Han, ambassador to the United States from the Republic of Korea, told a CalChamber gathering last week.

More than 50 guests greeted Ambassador Han at the international breakfast forum hosted by the CalChamber Council for International Trade on September 3. Attendees included California government officials and business people from California and South Korea, including representatives of agriculture, transportation, manufacturing and technology.

Ambassador Han's Remarks

For decades, the United States was Korea's biggest trading partner. Korea lost that distinction to China in 2003, however.

"Several years ago, our two governments decided that the best way to reverse this trend was to negotiate and ratify a bilateral free trade agreement that would knock down barriers on both sides of the Pacific," Ambassador Han said.



(From left) Susan Corrales-Diaz, chair of the CalChamber Council for International Trade and president of Systems Integrated; and His Excellency Duk-Soo Han, ambassador to the United States from the Republic of Korea, field questions at the CalChamber breakfast forum.

The United States and Korea negotiated an FTA and signed it in 2007. Unfortunately, "it has been languishing ever since because of other, more urgent policy priorities in Washington D.C. and because of other concerns about some of its provisions," Han said.

In June 2009, Korean President Lee and President Barack Obama breathed new life into the agreement during their meeting in Toronto. At the meeting, President Obama said he wanted the concerns dealt with and the agreement

See Korean: Page 6

CalChamber Joins Governor on Trade Mission to Asia

California Chamber of Commerce members are joining Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger this week on a six-day trade mission to China, Japan and South Korea to promote trade and investment, market California agriculture, encourage tourism and discuss high speed rail.

"The business and trade mission to Asia led by California Governor Schwarzenegger will serve to strengthen ties and increase economic opportunities among our major trade and investment partners," said Susanne Stirling, CalChamber vice president of international affairs and a member of

the business delegation.

"In keeping with long-standing policy, the CalChamber supports free trade worldwide. We encourage the expansion of trade and investment, fair and equitable market access for California products abroad and the elimination of disincentives that impede the international competitiveness of California businesses," Stirling continued.

There will be a 22-member business delegation attending the September 9-15 mission. The delegation includes representatives from manufacturing, high tech, agriculture, goods

movement and tourism, along with members of the Governor's Cabinet.

The role of the delegation is to join the Governor in serving as ambassadors of good will for the state and to assist him in informing Asian companies and investors that California is back on track and once again open for business. The mission has scheduled stops in Hangzhou, Shanghai, Tokyo and Seoul.

For more information on the CalChamber's positions on international trade issues, please visit www.calchamber.com/international.

Heat Illness Standard: Cal/OSHA Adopts CalChamber-Backed Amendments

The Cal/OSHA Standards Board has unanimously adopted Division of Occupational Safety and Health-recommended revisions providing needed clarity to the state's heat illness prevention standard.

California Chamber of Commerce Policy Advocate Marti Fisher was among those presenting an employer perspective when the Cal/OSHA Standards Board met in Sacramento on August 19 to review several amendments to the state's heat illness standard.

The CalChamber supports the amended regulations and sees them as a balanced approach to protecting the health and safety of outdoor workers while recognizing the realities of outdoor workplaces for employers.

Amended Regulations

In summary, the rulemaking package:

- institutes "shade up" provisions when temperatures reach 85 degrees Fahrenheit,



- establishes "high-heat" procedures at 95 degrees Fahrenheit,
- clarifies what constitutes a "shade break" and
- creates exemptions from the shade up requirement for employers for whom it is not feasible, providing the alternative is just as effective as shade.

The amendments also require that employees on the job for 14 days or less be closely supervised, unless they prove they are accustomed to working on hot days.

These rules apply to ALL outdoor workplaces, except the high heat provisions, which apply only to

agriculture, construction, landscaping, oil and gas extraction, and transportation of various industrial products. The new rules will take effect this fall.

Comprehensive Standard

California became the first state in the nation to adopt a comprehensive heat illness prevention standard for outdoor workers in July 2006. The regulations, implemented by the California Division of Occupational Safety and Health, mandated training for employees and supervisors on heat illness prevention, symptoms and treatment. The regulations apply to all companies with employees working in outdoor places of employment.

In addition to the training requirements, employers must provide potable drinking water, access to shade and complete heat illness prevention procedures, including employee training, in writing.

Staff Contact: Marti Fisher

Korean Ambassador Highlights Trade Agreement at CalChamber Forum

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finalized before he returns to Seoul in November for the G-20 Summit.

Korea FTA

Ambassador Han said that the U.S.-Korea FTA is about three things: jobs, economic growth, and security and shared values. The FTA "offers one of the best opportunities to create American jobs by providing new market openings for U.S. manufacturers, farmers and small and medium-sized companies," Han explained.

The U.S. Department of Commerce estimates that implementation of the FTA will create 70,000 new jobs in the United States. Han commented that expanding trade with Korea can be seen as "an economic stimulus package with no cost to taxpayers."

The independent and non-partisan U.S. International Trade Commission estimates that passage of the U.S.-Korea FTA will increase U.S. manufactured

goods exports by \$11 billion and reduce the U.S. trade deficit by \$4 billion.

State and Local Benefits

California is second only to New York in the annual dollar value of its exports—\$120 billion last year. It is second to none in the value of its exports to Korea—almost \$6 billion last year.

Six of the state's top 10 export commodities face Korean import tariffs ranging from 5 percent to 50 percent. The FTA will immediately eliminate all but one of them.

The FTA guarantees U.S. financial service companies operating in Korea all the legal rights and privileges that Korean firms enjoy. It also includes strong intellectual rights protections.

No Time to Lose

Ambassador Han stressed that there is "no time to lose. The agreement was signed three years ago and at last we have an opportunity to finalize it."

Last March, the Ambassador met with Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, who promised him two things: to visit Korea and to be a strong advocate for increased trade and economic ties between Korea and California.

Governor Schwarzenegger is going to make good on the first promise this week. He will travel to Korea on September 15 to sign a memorandum of understanding with his counterpart in Gyeonggi Province, the country's largest local administrative region. (See previous page.)

In closing, Ambassador Han encouraged the group not to give up. "I ask you to employ your support for the Korea FTA. Your members will be quite well-served by your advocacy and Korea will be too."

More information on the U.S.-Korea FTA is available at www.calchamber.com/USKoreaFTA.

Staff Contact: Susanne Stirling

CalChamber Status Update Report on Major Legislation for Business

The following list summarizes top priority bills for the California Chamber of Commerce and their status when the Legislature adjourned the session on August 31.

The budget remains unresolved.

Within each subject area, the list presents bills in order of priority with the highest priorities at the top.

September 30 is the last day for the

Governor to sign or veto bills passed by the Legislature on or before September 1. The CalChamber will publish its final status report showing the ultimate fate of priority bills sent to the Governor this year on October 8.

Each fall, the CalChamber also publishes a record of legislators' votes on key bills affecting the California business climate. Generally, the bills selected for

the vote record have appeared in one of the status reports. This year's vote record is scheduled to be published on October 22.

Federal bills are marked with an *.

Bills signed by the Governor will become law on January 1, 2011. Urgency measures went into effect immediately upon being signed.

Status of bills when the session adjourned on August 31. Dates listed are the date the bill was assigned to a committee, the latest date of committee action or when the bill reached the floor, unless action is stated.

Subject — CalChamber Position	Status
Agriculture and Natural Resources	
Endangered Species. AB 2420 (Huffman; D-San Rafael) Increases costs to business and agriculture by imposing additional conditions on take permits under state law in regards to federal permits. Oppose.	Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife 4/5/10; Failed Deadline
Pesticides. AB 1721 (Swanson; D-Alameda) Increases costs to agriculture by unnecessarily limiting use of legally registered pesticides near schools. Oppose.	Assembly Agriculture 4/19/10; Failed Deadline
Pest Eradication in Schools. SB 1157 (DeSaulnier; D-Concord) Increases taxes on chemicals categorized as pesticides to fund programs that promote non-chemical means of pest eradication in schools. Oppose.	To Governor
California Endangered Species Act Experimental Populations. SB 1349 (Cogdill; R-Modesto) Conforms state law to federal law regarding experimental populations of endangered species. Support.	To Governor
Endangered Species. SB 1303 (Wolk; D-Davis) Aids agricultural production by eliminating the sunset provision allowing accidental take of an endangered species during normal agricultural practices. Support.	To Governor
Ag Commodity Valuations. SB 1338 (Harman; R-Huntington Beach) Deters theft of certain agricultural commodities by setting their value at wholesale price which increases the crime to grand theft. Support.	To Governor
Rural Crime. SB 1325 (Harman; R-Huntington Beach) Discourages theft of agricultural commodities and equipment by increasing the penalties for convictions. Support.	Failed Passage in Senate Public Safety 4/20/10; Failed Deadline
Timber Harvest Plan. AB 2163 (Mendoza; D-Norwalk) Reduces costs to forestry companies by extending the lifespan of current timber harvest plans. Allows forestry companies flexibility to sell timber when the market improves. Support.	To Governor
Sea Level Rise. AB 2598 (Brownley; D-Santa Monica) Increases costs to businesses by requiring premature and likely redundant planning for sea level rise as it relates to climate change. Oppose.	Held in Senate Appropriations 8/12/10; Dead
Recasts the Rigs to Reef Program. AB 2503 (J. Pérez; D-Los Angeles) Reduces costs to oil companies by leaving underwater decommissioned oil rigs in place to provide habitat for sea life. Support.	To Governor

Coastal Development Permits. AB 291 (Saldaña; D-San Diego) Before amendments, would have halted development in the coastal zone by refusing to grant permits to anyone who has any outstanding unresolved violations on property before the Coastal Commission and presumed guilt until innocence was proven. Neutral.	To Governor
Forest Management. SB 144 (Pavley; D-Agoura Hills) Increases costs to forestland owners for converting to non-forestry land use. Unfairly targets conversion to pay for unfunded mandate for Forestry Department to develop global warming baselines. Oppose.	Assembly Natural Resources 6/15/09; Failed Deadline
California-Only Food Labels. SB 562 (Florez; D-Shafter) Threatens marketplace stability by requiring a California-only label on products from animals treated with approved subtherapeutic antibiotics. Oppose.	Assembly Agriculture 7/1/09; Failed Deadline
Working Dogs. SB 250 (Florez; D-Shafter) Increases the cost of doing business for ranchers by limiting their ability to breed working dogs that herd and guard farm property. Oppose.	Failed Passage in Assembly 8/31/10

Banking/Finance

Delays Residential Construction Industry Recovery. AB 1639 (Nava; D-Santa Barbara) Hinders recovery of the residential construction industry by reducing credit availability due to the imposition of a mandatory mortgage mediation program, which will lead to increased delays in resolving delinquent loans. Oppose/ Job Killer .	Assembly Inactive File 6/21/10; Failed Deadline
Delays Residential Construction Industry Recovery. SB 1275 (Leno; D-San Francisco) Hinders recovery of the residential construction industry by reducing the availability of credit due to delays in resolving delinquent loans by requiring lenders to determine a borrower’s eligibility for a loan modification prior to the filing of a notice of default. Oppose/ Job Killer .	Failed Passage in Assembly 8/30/10
Reverse Mortgages. SB 660 (Wolk; D-Davis) Threatens to reduce the availability of beneficial financial products to seniors by imposing ambiguous new duties on lenders of reverse mortgages, exposing the industry to new and unnecessary legal liability. Oppose.	Failed Assembly Banking and Finance 7/1/10
Deficiency Judgments. SB 1178 (Corbett; D-San Leandro) Promotes an increasing practice of borrowers who strategically default despite having the financial capacity to pay their mortgage, which will further delay economic recovery as excess inventory will depress property values and contribute to blighted communities. Oppose Unless Amended.	To Governor
Mortgages: Notice of Sale. AB 2678 (Fuentes; D-Sylmar) Could further delay economic recovery while continuing the trend of reduced property tax revenue, and artificially sustain depressed property values by prohibiting a mortgage/trustee/beneficiary from giving a notice of sale if they are in negotiations with the borrower to modify the existing loan and further requiring that a new notice of sale be provided to the borrower if there is a postponement in a foreclosure sale. Oppose.	Failed Passage in Assembly Banking and Finance 4/19/10; Failed Deadline
Loan Modification. AB 2024 (Blumenfield; D-San Fernando Valley) Requires a lender that rejects a loan modification to send a notification by certified mail to the borrower specifically detailing the reasons why they were rejected, which is an over-simplification of a complex process and ignores protocols for existing loan modification programs. The measure lacks specificity, which will lead to compliance hurdles and increased litigation. Oppose.	Assembly Banking and Finance 5/3/10; Failed Deadline
Property Appraisals. SB 1000 (Correa; D-Santa Ana) Requires lenders to accept appraisals from any properly licensed appraiser, which could result in poor lending decisions, ultimately affecting the safety and soundness of financial institutions. Oppose.	Senate Banking, Finance and Insurance 5/5/10; Failed Deadline
Mortgage Debt Forgiveness. AB 1779 (Niello; R-Fair Oaks) Gives financial relief to troubled borrowers by excluding debt forgiven by a lender from a borrower’s taxable income, in conformity with federal law. Support.	Held in Assembly Revenue and Taxation 5/10/10; Dead
California Financial Literacy Fund. AB 2457 (Salas; D-Chula Vista) Establishes a financial literacy fund for public-private partnering to enhance financial literacy of California residents, potentially averting future financial problems for many of California’s families. Support.	To Governor

Climate Change

Climate Change Tax Increase. AB 1405 (De León; D-Los Angeles) Increases costs and discourages job growth by granting the Air Resources Board broad authority to implement unlimited fees and taxes with little or no oversight. Oppose/ Job Killer .	To Governor
Expedited Environmental Review. AB 1846 (V. M. Pérez; D-Coachella) Streamlines the California Environmental Quality Act approval process for certain projects by allowing industries subject to compliance with greenhouse gas regulations under AB 32 to go through an expedited environmental review through a focused environmental impact report. Support/ Job Creator .	Signed—Chapter 195

<p>Supports Construction of Vital Projects. SB 388 (R. Calderon; D-Montebello) Encourages job growth and support for renewable energy integration by authorizing priority reserve emission reduction credits vital for the construction of a power plant within the South Coast Air Basin. Support/Job Creator.</p>	Senate Rules 9/12/09; Dead
<p>Climate Change Adaptation Strategies: Sustainable Communities. SB 1006 (Pavley; D-Agoura Hills) Before amendments, would have fostered a no-growth mentality by prematurely providing data to local government and regional agencies on climate change adaptation strategies that could become the de facto blueprint for the planning and development of sustainable communities. Now expands eligibility of financial assistance (Proposition 84 funds) to include Joint Power Authorities and special districts as entities eligible for Strategic Growth Council Funding. No Position.</p>	To Governor
<p>Increases Construction Jobs. AB 2313 (Buchanan; D-Alamo) Before amendments, would have helped provide certainty and avoid unnecessary litigation by establishing a uniform, statewide threshold of significance for greenhouse gas emissions to be used in environmental analysis under the California Environmental Quality Act. Now just intent language. Support/Former Job Creator.</p>	Senate Environmental Quality 6/21/10; Failed Deadline
<p>Environmental Protection: Greenhouse Gas Emissions: Climate Action Team. AB 2329 (Ruskin; D-Redwood City) Unnecessarily codifies an Executive Branch working group known as the Climate Action Team permanently into state law, which severely limits the flexibility and usefulness of arrangements into the future. Also fosters a no-growth mentality by prematurely directing the Natural Resources Agency to issue a tri-annual adaptation that will effectively dictate growth limits throughout the state with virtually no public input. Oppose.</p>	Failed Passage in Senate 8/31/10
<p>State Air Resources Board: Regulation. SB 1351 (Wright; D-Inglewood) Requires the State Air Resources Board (ARB) to provide appropriate implementation schedules and other notification requirements for regulations adopted by the ARB pursuant to AB 32. Support.</p>	Failed Senate Environmental Quality 8/19/10
<p>Carbon Footprint Labeling. AB 19 (Ruskin; D-Redwood City) Disadvantages California business by requiring the ARB to develop and implement a program for the voluntary assessment, verification and standardized labeling of the carbon footprint of consumer products sold in this state. Oppose.</p>	Held in Senate Appropriations Suspense File 8/27/09; Failed Deadline
<p>State Air Resources Board: Dispute Resolution. AB 2469 (B. Berryhill; R-Ceres) Ensures a transparent process of review by providing a process for settlement of disputes between regulated parties and the ARB through a dispute resolution process. Support.</p>	Held in Assembly Appropriations Suspense File 5/28/10; Failed Deadline
<p>Prohibits Duplicative Greenhouse Gas Fees. AB 2691 (Hall; D-Los Angeles) Addresses local overlapping of greenhouse gas emission fees by prohibiting entities from being assessed duplicative fees from multiple agencies for climate change programs to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Support.</p>	Failed Passage in Assembly Natural Resources 4/19/10; Failed Deadline
<p>Ensures Regulatory Review. AB 2311 (Mendoza; D-Norwalk) Ensures oversight over the implementation of AB 32 regulations by requiring the ARB to conduct a thorough review of the Low Carbon Fuel Standard — revising compliance schedules based upon report findings. Support.</p>	Held in Assembly Appropriations Suspense File 5/28/10; Failed Deadline
<p>Increases Energy Efficiency. AB 1873 (Huffman; D-San Rafael) Makes it more attractive for local governments to offer Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) programs and lower the interest rate of loans to home and business owners for energy and water efficiency improvements. Support.</p>	To Governor
<h2 style="color: red;">Education</h2>	
<p>Race to the Top. SBX5 4 (Romero; D-East Los Angeles) In combination with SBX5 1, places California in the best position to meet federal Race to the Top competitive grant requirements and secure up to \$700 million in federal funding by making comprehensive changes to the state's education system in the areas of teacher and administrator evaluation, school reform, parental empowerment, and content standards. Support.</p>	Signed—Chapter 3
<p>Race to the Top. SBX5 1 (Steinberg; D-Sacramento) In combination with SBX5 4, places California in the best position to meet federal Race to the Top competitive grant requirements and secure up to \$700 million in federal funding by making comprehensive changes to the state's education system in the areas of teacher and administrator evaluations, school reform, parental empowerment, and content standards. Support.</p>	Signed—Chapter 2
<p>Funding for Student Data Systems. AB 2265 (Salas; D-Chula Vista) Helps ensure the California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System is comprehensive by requiring the Department of Education to allocate funds to local educational agencies and direct-funding charter schools to help them participate in the program. Support.</p>	Held in Assembly Appropriations Suspense File 5/28/10; Failed Deadline
<p>High School Instruction: Course of Study. SB 381 (Wright; D-Inglewood) Sets back efforts to increase the number of students attending college by prohibiting districts from adopting graduation requirements that require additional coursework to meet admission standards for post-secondary education unless a district also adopts alternative graduation requirements designed to attain entry-level employment. Oppose.</p>	Assembly Appropriations Suspense File 8/27/09; Failed Deadline

Student Transfer Achievement Reform Act. SB 1440 (Padilla; D-Pacoima) Will help employers identify highly qualified individuals in the workforce, and increase the number of students who go on to obtain a four-year degree by requiring California Community Colleges to offer an associate’s degree for transfer. Support.	To Governor
Flexible Funding for Community Colleges. AB 2542 (Conway; R-Tulare) Allows up to five community colleges in the state to apply for relief from certain sections of the Education Code in exchange for meeting the requirements of an Accelerated Student Success College as defined in the bill. Support.	Failed Passage in Assembly Higher Education 4/20/10; Reconsideration Granted; Failed Deadline
Quality Teacher Retention. SB 955 (Huff; R-Diamond Bar) Helps keep the best teachers in our classrooms by making changes to laws governing layoff, dismissal and re-employment procedures for certificated teachers. Support.	Senate Rules 7/1/10; Dead

Elections and Fair Political Practices

Limits Free Speech. AB 919 (Nava; D-Santa Barbara) Stifles business participation in the political process, increases frivolous litigation and interferes with shareholder dividends by placing significant administrative burdens on corporations to return to a shareholder that shareholder’s pro rata share of a political contribution to which the shareholder objects. Oppose.	Failed Passage in Senate Banking, Finance and Insurance 6/16/10; Failed Deadline
Limits Free Speech. AB 2321 (Nava; D-Santa Barbara) Stifles business participation in the political process, increases frivolous litigation and interferes with shareholder dividends by placing significant administrative burdens on corporations to return to a shareholder that shareholder’s pro rata share of a political contribution to which the shareholder objects. Oppose.	Assembly Elections and Redistricting 4/23/10; Failed Deadline
*DISCLOSE Act. H.R. 5175 Limits Free Speech. Oppose.	Pending Congressional Action

Energy

Supports Construction of Vital Projects. SBX8 34 (Padilla; D-Pacoima) Ensures the expedited permitting of environmentally sound solar thermal and photovoltaic power plants, enabling them to qualify for grants under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. Support/ Job Creator.	Signed—Chapter 9
Green Energy. AB 222 (Adams; R-Hesperia) Before amendments, would have encouraged new investment and job creation by allowing conversion of solid waste to energy at a biorefinery to count toward meeting the state’s renewable energy goals. As first amended was a Solid Waste Definitions bill that provided little to no benefit to the state’s environmental and energy goals. Amended again to deal with child care. No Position/ Former Job Creator.	To Governor
Streamlining Energy Oversight. AB 2561 (Villines; R-Clovis) Streamlines 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. Support.	Senate Rules 8/2/10; Dead
Streamlining Energy Oversight. AB 2769 (Committee on Utilities and Commerce) Provides oversight and accountability by requiring President of Public Utilities Commission to appear before Legislature to provide a full report and update of the commission’s annual work plan. Support.	To Governor
Economic Review of Energy Regulations. SB 988 (Huff; R-Diamond Bar) Brings sunshine to existing regulations and encourages agency action to improve regulations every five years by requiring a periodic review of energy regulations in the state. Support.	Held in Senate Appropriations Suspense File 5/27/10; Dead
Onerous Utility Restrictions. SB 1441 (Leno; D-San Francisco) Imposes onerous restrictions on business by prohibiting a utility from transferring money to its holding company unless approved by a two-thirds vote of the utility’s ratepayers. Oppose.	Held in Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications 4/20/10; Failed Deadline
Electrical Transmission Towers. AB 2662 (Hagman; R-Chino Hills) Disrupts and discourages renewable energy compliance by prohibiting the construction of transmission towers vital for the procurement of renewable energy and fulfillment of the Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) as required by law. Oppose.	Failed Passage in Assembly Utilities and Commerce 4/19/10; Reconsideration Granted; Failed Deadline

Environmental Regulation

Expanded Waste Bureaucracy. AB 479 (Chesbro; D-North Coast) Exposes employers to new requirements that may be unworkable or prohibitively expensive by giving government broad new authority to impose programs that achieve a statewide solid waste diversion rate of 75 percent by 2020. Oppose/ Job Killer.	Held in Senate Appropriations Suspense File 8/27/09; Dead
Anti-Business Cost Increases. AB 846 (Torrice; D-Fremont) Significantly increases the cost of doing business in California by automatically adjusting maximum and minimum penalties upward according to inflation and by raising penalties even higher according to an arbitrary rounding scheme. Oppose/ Job Killer.	Failed Passage in Senate Governmental Organization 6/29/10; Reconsideration Granted; Failed Deadline

Unworkable Mandate. AB 2138 (Chesbro; D-North Coast) Imposes new and costly mandates on California's food service industry by imposing an unworkable framework aimed at reducing marine debris. Oppose/ Job Killer .	Held in Assembly Appropriations Suspense File 5/28/10; Failed Deadline
Increases Construction Jobs. SB 1010 (Correa; D-Santa Ana) Facilitates job creation by giving a limited number of environmentally sound development projects protection from CEQA lawsuits. This benefit will allow projects that have met their CEQA requirements to break ground sooner, which will create badly needed jobs and spur economic growth. Support/ Job Creator .	Failed Passage in Senate Environmental Quality 4/5/10; Reconsideration granted; Failed Deadline
Increases Construction Jobs. AB 1805 (C. Calderon; D-Montebello) Facilitates job creation by giving a limited number of environmentally sound development projects protection from CEQA lawsuits. This benefit will allow projects that have met their CEQA requirements to break ground sooner, which will create badly needed jobs and spur economic growth. Support/ Job Creator .	Assembly Natural Resources 4/20/10; Failed Deadline
Increases Construction Jobs. SBX8 42 (Correa; D-Santa Ana) Facilitates job creation by giving a limited number of environmentally sound development projects protection from CEQA lawsuits. This benefit will allow projects that have met their CEQA requirements to break ground sooner, which will create badly needed jobs and spur economic growth. Support/ Job Creator .	Held in Senate Environmental Quality 2/24/10; Session Closed
Increases Construction Jobs. ABX8 37 (C. Calderon; D-Montebello) Facilitates job creation by giving a limited number of environmentally sound development projects protection from CEQA lawsuits. This benefit will allow projects that have met their CEQA requirements to break ground sooner, which will create badly needed jobs and spur economic growth. Support/ Job Creator .	Died at Assembly Desk 3/11/10; Session Closed
Consumer Products Information. SB 928 (Simitian; D-Palo Alto) Increases costs to consumers and exposes confidential business information by prohibiting the manufacture, sale or distribution of a designated consumer product unless the manufacturer discloses each ingredient contained in the product on an Internet website. Oppose.	Held in Assembly Appropriations 8/13/10; Dead
Commercial Recycling. AB 737 (Chesbro; D-North Coast) Prejudges the work product of an existing regulatory process by imposing its own, less effective commercial recycling mandate on California businesses. By imposing its mandate only upon the private sector rather than including the public sector as CalRecycle has proposed, the bill would hinder the state's ability to meet its recycling goals and put greater economic and regulatory burdens on California businesses. Oppose/ Former Job Killer .	To Governor
Overlapping and Burdensome Government Regulation. AB 2139 (Chesbro; D-North Coast) Leads to increased cost for consumers and businesses by requiring producers of select products sold in California to collect their products after use by the consumer and manage the recycling and/or disposal of those products. Oppose.	Failed Passage in Assembly 6/3/10; Failed Deadline
Air Pollution Penalties. SB 1433 (Leno; D-San Francisco) Increases air pollution penalties by automatically adjusting them for inflation, which reduces the likelihood that periodic, comprehensive reviews of such laws will be conducted by the Legislature. Oppose.	To Governor
Bisphenol A. SB 797 (Pavley; D-Agoura Hills) Inappropriately pre-empts the Green Chemistry process by prohibiting the manufacture, sale or distribution of certain children's products if they contain Bisphenol A in concentrations over 0.1 parts per billion. Oppose.	Failed Passage in Senate 8/31/10
Construction Delays. AB 1747 (Galgiani; D-Livingston) Creates new opportunities for land use project delays and lawsuits by inappropriately requiring CEQA analysis of activities that might impede or prevent surface mining activities on property at any time in the future. Oppose.	Senate Rules 8/19/10; Dead
Fire Retardant Ban. SB 772 (Leno; D-San Francisco) Seeks to circumvent science-based Green Chemistry process being developed at Department of Toxic Substances Control and changes fire safety standards for some children's products in order to prohibit the use of certain fire retardants. Oppose.	Assembly Appropriations 8/27/09; Failed Deadline
Product Labeling. SB 1212 (Leno; D-San Francisco) Leads to substantial consumer confusion by mandating an unwarranted "warning label" be posted on packaging, in instruction manuals and at point of sale for each wireless phone and hands-free device available for sale in California. Oppose.	Senate Inactive File 6/24/10 Dead
Flame Retardants. SB 1291 (Leno; D-San Francisco) Sets inappropriate precedent for state's Green Chemistry Program by requiring Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) to give special treatment to specific category of chemicals: those used or proposed to be used as flame retardants. Such a process ignores DTSC's existing obligation to prioritize the universe of chemicals and products so its finite resources can be used most efficiently to protect human health/environment. Oppose.	Senate Inactive File 6/24/10; Failed Deadline
Increased Construction and Retail Jobs. AB 1581 (Torres; D-Pomona) Encourages the creation of new construction and retail jobs by streamlining the CEQA process for a previously occupied retail structure when the alteration or reuse will improve the energy efficiency of the building by 25 percent and decreases water consumption of the building by 20 percent. Support.	Senate Inactive File 8/31/10; Dead

<p>Product Labeling. AB 2256 (Huffman; D-San Rafael) Establishes flushable labeling standards in statute which are unnecessary, duplicative and would not achieve the bill’s intended results. Oppose.</p>	<p>Passed Senate Business, Professions and Economic Development 6/28/10; Failed Deadline</p>
<p>Regulatory Reform. AB 2529 (Fuentes; D-Sylmar) Helps to ensure, through the creation of an external peer review process, that state agencies are accurately evaluating the impacts that new regulations have on the economy and jobs. Support.</p>	<p>Senate Business, Professions and Economic Development 6/23/10; Failed Deadline</p>
<p>Regulatory Reform. AB 2299 (Blakeslee; R-San Luis Obispo) Helps to ensure, through the creation of an external peer review process, that the California Air Resources Board (ARB) is accurately evaluating the secondary impacts of new rules and regulations, including the impacts on the economy, California jobs, and subsequently the state’s General Fund. Support.</p>	<p>Held in Assembly Appropriations Suspense File 5/28/10; Failed Deadline</p>
<p>Air Discharges. SB 1224 (Wright; D-Inglewood) Helps businesses comply with environmental regulations by providing a new level of consistency to California’s odor nuisance law. Support.</p>	<p>To Governor</p>
<p>Regulatory Reform. SB 960 (Dutton; R-Rancho Cucamonga) Provides oversight and accountability by requiring a thorough economic analysis of costly regulations proposed by the California Air Resources Board. Report conducted by the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) will focus on a cost benefit analysis and the technological feasibility of a regulation. Support.</p>	<p>Failed Passage in Senate Environmental Quality 4/5/10; Reconsideration granted; Failed Deadline</p>
<p>Regulatory Reform. SBX8 50 (Dutton; R-Rancho Cucamonga) Requires the Legislative Analyst’s Office to do an economic review of major regulations promulgated by ARB. Support.</p>	<p>Senate Rules 2/12/10; Session Closed</p>
<p>Health</p>	
<p>Unrestrained Government Control. AB 1602 (J. Pérez; D-Los Angeles) AB 1602, together with SB 900, prematurely creates overly broad and expansive governance and guidelines without oversight for the state health benefit exchange, which could lead to unnecessary cost increases and limited choice for employers. Oppose/Job Killer.</p>	<p>To Governor</p>
<p>Unrestrained Government Control. SB 900 (Alquist; D-Santa Clara) SB 900, together with AB 1602, prematurely creates overly broad and expansive governance and guidelines without oversight for the state health benefit exchange, which could lead to unnecessary cost increases and limited choice for employers. Oppose/Job Killer.</p>	<p>To Governor</p>
<p>Inappropriate Price Control. AB 2578 (Jones; D-Sacramento) Reduces health care choices, access and quality by creating additional bureaucracy to impose price controls on health insurance policies while failing to address the major cost drivers of rising medical costs. Oppose/Job Killer.</p>	<p>Failed Passage in Senate 8/31/10</p>
<p>Government-Run Health Care. SB 810 (Leno; D-San Francisco) Creates a new government-run, multibillion-dollar socialized health care system supported by an unspecified “premium structure” that would conflict with recently enacted federal health care reform. Oppose/Job Killer.</p>	<p>Assembly 8/23/10; Dead</p>
<p>Increased Premiums. SB 1200 (Leno; D-San Francisco) Increases premiums by requiring health plans to provide reimbursement for school-based medical care. Oppose.</p>	<p>Held in Assembly Appropriations 8/13/10; Dead</p>
<p>Health Insurance Litigation. AB 2470 (De La Torre; D-South Gate) Before amendments, would have driven up the cost of health care premiums and gone beyond federal health care reform by establishing litigation as the only meaningful approach to resolving disputes over canceled coverage. After amendments, conforms California rescission rules to federal requirements. No Position.</p>	<p>To Governor</p>
<p>Health Care Coverage. SB 890 (Alquist; D-Santa Clara) Before amendments, would have imposed new restrictions on health care coverage plans, increasing health care premiums and limiting choice, resulting in more people becoming uninsured. No Position</p>	<p>To Governor</p>
<p>Increased Costs. SB 961 (Wright; D-Inglewood) Increases health care premiums by limiting co-payments for one type of pharmaceutical: orally administered anti-cancer medications. Oppose.</p>	<p>To Governor</p>
<p>Increased Costs. SB 220 (Yee; D-San Francisco) Increases health care premiums by requiring health plans and insurers to cover counseling, prescriptions and over-the-counter treatments for smoking cessation. Oppose.</p>	<p>To Governor</p>
<p>Increased Costs. SB 1104 (Cedillo; D-Los Angeles) Increases health care premiums by mandating coverage for diabetes-related complications. Oppose.</p>	<p>Held in Senate Appropriations Suspense File 5/27/10; Failed Deadline</p>
<p>Increased Costs: Mandated Expanded Mental Health Coverage. AB 1600 (Beall; D-San Jose) Increases health care premiums by mandating that health plans and insurers provide parity coverage for an expanded list of mental health disorders. Oppose.</p>	<p>To Governor</p>

Increased Costs. AB 2170 (B. Lowenthal; D-Long Beach) Undermines cost controls for pharmaceutical drug use, potentially leading to higher premiums for health coverage by prohibiting plans from altering enrollee's out-of-pocket costs for prescription drugs during contract year. Oppose.	Held in Assembly Appropriations Suspense File 5/28/10; Failed Deadline
Increased Costs. AB 1826 (Huffman; D-San Rafael) Eliminates current cost controls and unravels consumer protections in the use of prescription pain medicines by eliminating the practice of step therapy. Oppose.	Held in Senate Appropriations 8/12/10; Dead
Increased Costs. AB 2110 (De La Torre; D-South Gate) Potentially drives up the cost of health care premiums by providing health insurance coverage for 50 days while premiums go unpaid. Oppose.	Senate Inactive File 8/30/10; Dead
Increased Costs: Mandated Maternity Services Benefits Coverage. AB 1825 (De La Torre; D-South Gate) Increases health insurance premiums and increases the ranks of the uninsured by mandating that all health insurance policies provide maternity coverage. Oppose.	To Governor
Curbs Illegal Drug Manufacturing. AB 1455 (Hill; D-San Mateo) Seeks to curb illegal manufacture of methamphetamine by making it more difficult to purchase pseudoephedrine (PSE). Implements statewide electronic tracking program in retail outlets that monitors all California over-the-counter PSE purchases in real time to prevent purchases beyond limits established by federal law. Support.	Held in Senate Judiciary 6/29/10; Failed Deadline
Unreasonable Prescription Requirement. SB 484 (Wright; D-Inglewood) Increases cost of health care coverage for everyone by forcing individuals to obtain prescription for products now available without a prescription. Oppose.	Assembly Appropriations 6/30/09; Failed Deadline
Health Expenses Tax Deductions. AB 2041 (Villines; R-Clovis) Entitles individuals to a state tax deduction for contributions to a health savings account (HSA) in conformity with federal tax law, allowing individuals to save tax-free dollars to pay for near-term medical expenses and save for future longer-term medical costs. Support.	Assembly Revenue and Taxation 5/12/10; Dead
Health Expenses Tax Deductions. SBX6 13 (Dutton; R-Rancho Cucamonga) Entitles individuals to a state tax deduction for contributions to a health savings account (HSA) in conformity with federal tax law, allowing individuals to save tax-free dollars to pay for near-term medical expenses and save for future longer-term medical costs. Support.	Senate Revenue and Taxation Suspense File 5/13/10
Reduced Medical Services. SB 316 (Alquist; D-Santa Clara) Before amendments, would have imposed an arbitrary 85 percent medical loss ratio on health plans leading to potentially less service to plan subscribers rather than more, and eliminating low-cost products. After amendments, removes medical loss ratio language and instead expands certain disclosures. No Position.	Passed Senate 1/28/10; Failed Deadline
Housing and Land Use	
Building Standards. AB 1693 (Ma; D-San Francisco) Raises compliance levels for state building codes and reduces cost to state when adopting new codes by increasing amount of time available for education and training for new building standards prior to those standards taking effect. Support.	Signed—Chapter 145
California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). SB 476 (Correa; D-Santa Ana) Helps speed economic recovery by clarifying the duration of the public comment period for non-compliance challenges as part of the CEQA environmental review process. Support.	Assembly Natural Resources 5/28/09; Failed Deadline
Building Standards. AB 2670 (J. Pérez; D-Los Angeles) Establishes a State Capitol Sustainability Task Force that uses a private building standard rather than using the state's own groundbreaking mandatory standards, the California Green Building Code (CALGreen). Oppose.	To Governor
Building Standards. SB 518 (A. Lowenthal; D-Long Beach) Provides an alternative method for reducing water consumption in non-residential buildings, thus providing the building industry with increased design flexibility in meeting the mandatory provisions of the state's green building standards (CALGreen). Support.	To Governor
Housing Elements. AB 602 (Feuer; D-Los Angeles) Before amendments, would have threatened construction industry jobs by eliminating the statute of limitations in actions challenging the sufficiency of a housing element, allowing for challenges to be brought years after a housing element is adopted. Now makes changes regarding when a housing element can be challenged in court. No Position.	To Governor
Homebuyer Tax Credit. AB 765 (Caballero; D-Salinas) Allows new home purchasers to reserve already-available tax credit earlier in homebuying process. Originally encouraged recovery in residential housing market by extending duration/raising funding cap of already-successful economic stimulus program offering homebuyers \$10,000 personal income tax credit for new home purchases. Support.	Senate Inactive File 9/9/09; Dead
Mobilehome Rent Control. AB 761 (C. Calderon; D-Montebello) Provides vacancy decontrol relief to mobilehome parks by allowing rents, upon vacancy, to gradually reach market levels. Support.	Failed Passage in Senate Judiciary 6/29/10; Dead

Industrial Safety and Health

<p>Unjustified Citations. AB 2774 (Swanson; D-Alameda) Before amendments, included overly expansive definition that would have led to an increase in “serious” Cal/OSHA citations that are now and should continue to be classified as “general.” A serious citation carries significant financial implications for employers so therefore should be issued only where warranted. No Position Due to Amendments.</p>	<p>To Governor</p>
<p>Pre-empts Regulatory Process. SB 477 (Florez; D-Shafter) Needlessly pre-empts the flexible and responsive Cal/OSHA process for developing amendments to existing regulations to prevent heat illness in outdoor work environments. Oppose.</p>	<p>Held in Assembly Appropriations 8/13/10; Dead</p>

International Relations/Trade

<p>Human Trafficking. SB 657 (Steinberg; D-Sacramento) Inappropriately creates a situation where companies are publicly identified for “failing” to address issues they are powerless to address. Oppose.</p>	<p>To Governor</p>
<p>Slave and Sweat-Free Code of Conduct. SB 1231 (Corbett; D-San Leandro) Creates a costly, unreasonable burden on companies that contract with the state by requiring them to track the entire supply chain of manufactured products and certify that their products were not produced using forced labor. Authorizes non-profits to investigate these companies to ensure compliance, and could exclude certain products even if they were not produced using forced labor. Would raise the cost of products, and increase litigation, thereby raising costs to taxpayers. Oppose.</p>	<p>To Governor</p>
<p>Posting Requirements. SB 1230 (DeSaulnier; D-Concord) Codifies into state law the name and contact information of a non-profit organization dealing with human trafficking, irrespective of possible future changes, and creates a new burden on employers by requiring them to post information regarding human trafficking and phone numbers to call to report cases. Oppose.</p>	<p>To Governor</p>
<p>Public Contracts and Investment Activities. AB 1650 (Feuer; D-Los Angeles) Before amendments would have resulted in California state and local governments being unable to access financial markets by requiring financial institutions that wish to contract with government to certify they are not engaged in the energy sector in Iran, yet providing no workable process by which to accomplish this certification. Now establishes a workable process for those companies bidding on state or local government contracts. Provides that companies be notified and permits them to comment if the state lists them as having such involvement. Includes a statute of limitations for penalties and reinforces that the bill does not authorize a private right of action. Neutral.</p>	<p>To Governor</p>
<p>State Point of Contact. AB 2443 (V. M. Pérez; D-Coachella) Requires state point of contact to share executive branch correspondence with U.S. Trade Representative with Legislature. Amendments will ensure correspondence to Legislature is given after the fact, to ensure Governor is not hampered by the Legislature on trade issues. No Position.</p>	<p>To Governor</p>
<p>U.S.-Colombia Free Trade Agreement (FTA). AJR 27 (Torrico; D-Fremont) Assembly Joint Resolution opposing U.S.-Colombia FTA would cast FTA/Colombia in unproductive light if it were to pass. Colombia is important trading partner and partner in stopping drug trafficking. Oppose.</p>	<p>To Governor</p>
<p>*U.S.-Colombia Free Trade Agreement. A bilateral free trade agreement that will lower tariffs and foster increased trade between both countries. The agreement also will increase momentum toward lowering trade barriers and set a positive example for other small economies in the Western Hemisphere. Support.</p>	<p>Pending Congressional Action</p>
<p>*U.S.-Korea Free Trade Agreement. A bilateral free trade agreement that will lower tariffs and foster increased trade between both countries and is a critical element of the U.S. strategy to liberalize trade through multilateral, regional and bilateral initiatives. Support.</p>	<p>Pending Congressional Action</p>
<p>*U.S.-Panama Free Trade Agreement. A bilateral free trade agreement that will lower tariffs and foster increased trade between both countries. The agreement also will increase momentum toward lowering trade barriers and set a positive example for other small economies in the Western Hemisphere. Support.</p>	<p>Pending Congressional Action</p>

Labor and Employment

<p>Expanded Employer Liability. AB 2187 (Arambula; I-Fresno) Creates a significant disincentive to locate jobs and operations in California by potentially criminalizing almost any legitimate wage dispute with a terminated employee that takes longer than 90 days to resolve. Oppose/Job Killer.</p>	<p>To Governor</p>
<p>Expanded Employer Liability. AB 482 (Mendoza; D-Norwalk) Increases exposure to liability for hiring decisions by unduly restricting the ability of employers to base employment decisions on the evaluation of all legally available information, including consumer credit reports. Oppose/Job Killer.</p>	<p>To Governor</p>

Increased Agricultural Costs. SB 1474 (Steinberg; D-Sacramento) Designed to increase union representation of agricultural employees even when it is against the will of employees by undermining the process that now guarantees, through secret-ballot elections, a fair vote and the expression of agricultural employees' true sentiments on the selection of a collective bargaining representative. This act will hurt California's businesses by driving up costs, making employers less competitive in a global market. Oppose/ Job Killer .	To Governor
Harms California Farms and Farm Workers. SB 1121 (Florez; D-Shafter) Places farms at a competitive disadvantage, increases cost of doing business for California farmers, and reduces available resources to invest in workers and farms by removing overtime exemption for agricultural employees. Oppose/ Job Killer .	Vetoed
Flexible Work Schedules. SB 1335 (Cox; R-Fair Oaks) Provides a simplified, voluntary way for establishing flexible work schedules, creating a win-win-win for employees, employers and the environment by promoting better work-life balance, improved workplace productivity and retention, and reduced traffic and greenhouse gases. Sponsor/Co-Sponsor/ Job Creator .	Failed Passage in Senate Labor and Industrial Relations 4/19/10; Failed Deadline
Employment Training. AB 1804 (Hagman; R-Chino Hills) Helps California stay competitive by ensuring that employer-generated funds for the Employment Training Panel that are diverted by the state to other programs are repaid within three years and thereby remain available to train employees for businesses that are locating or expanding in California, as well as those that are retraining employees to make California operations more viable. Support/ Job Creator .	Held in Assembly Appropriations Suspense File 5/28/10; Failed Deadline
Meal Period Clarification. SBX8 70 (Dutton; R-Rancho Cucamonga) Reduces unnecessary litigation costs for employers by providing clarity and guidance for complying with meal period laws by clarifying how employees take meal breaks, enter into on-duty meal period agreements, and revising the timeframe for recovering penalties. Support.	Failed Passage in Senate Labor and Industrial Relations 2/24/10; Session Closed
Flexible Work Schedules. SBX8 66 (Cox; R-Fair Oaks) Helps employees and employers achieve greater flexibility in work schedules by allowing workers to request and employers to mutually agree to a four-day 40-hour workweek without the payment of overtime. Support.	Failed Passage in Senate Labor and Industrial Relations 2/24/10; Session Closed
Litigation Settlement Transparency. SB 989 (Hollingsworth; R-Murrieta) Requires reporting of settlements under Private Attorneys General Act (PAGA) to help ensure appropriate payments are made to the state. Support.	Held at Assembly Desk 8/21/10; Dead
Increased Penalties. AB 1881 (Monning; D-Carmel) Unreasonably expands employer liability by doubling liquidated damages in minimum wage claims in court. Oppose.	To Governor
Expansion of Leave Requirements. AB 2340 (Monning; D-Carmel) Potentially makes the management of overlapping leave requests unfeasible or unfair and could create staffing shortages that temporarily halt operations by requiring every employer to provide every employee with up to three days of unpaid bereavement leave per year. Oppose.	To Governor
Expansion of Leave Requirements. SB 1304 (DeSaulnier; D-Concord) Potentially makes the management of overlapping leave requests unfeasible or unfair and creates staffing shortages that temporarily halt operations by requiring employers to provide paid leave of up to 30 days for organ donations and five days for bone marrow donations. Oppose.	To Governor
Unfair Advantage. AB 1853 (Huffman; D-San Rafael) Creates an unfair advantage for certain contractors and subcontractors in the bidding process and increases costs to government by providing a bid preference for public works contracts for employers that provide and document credible health care coverage, which disadvantages employers who cannot afford health care coverage. Oppose.	Failed Passage in Senate 8/31/10
Final Pay Provision. AB 2424 (Niello; R-Fair Oaks) Provides clarification for when final payment is due to a discharged employee. Support.	Assembly Labor and Employment 4/5/10; Failed Deadline
Legal Reform and Protection	
Undermines Judicial Discretion. AB 2773 (Swanson; D-Alameda) Unreasonably increases business litigation costs by limiting judicial discretion to reduce or deny exorbitant legal fees in fair employment and housing cases. Oppose/ Job Killer .	To Governor
Interferes with Contractual Agreements. AB 1680 (Saldaña; D-San Diego) Burdens businesses with unnecessary litigation costs and slows down resolution of disputes by presumptively invalidating arbitration agreements in an otherwise voluntary contract if the underlying claim involves a possible hate crime. Oppose/ Job Killer .	To Governor

<p>Business to Business Contract Rights. AB 2490 (Jones; D-Sacramento) Before amendments, would have limited the freedom of sophisticated businesses to include forum-selection and choice-of-law provisions in contracts governing workers’ compensation claims. As amended, requires that agreements governing disputes between employers whose principal place of business is California and their workers’ compensation insurance carriers, over claims arising in California, be resolved in California according to California law unless otherwise agreed to by the parties at the time of the original contract establishing insurance coverage; and that this provision must be filed with the insurance commissioner. No Position.</p>	<p>To Governor</p>
<p>Increased Liability for Social Networking Sites. SB 1361 (Corbett; D-San Leandro) Puts minors at greater risk of online predation by undermining self-policing mechanisms currently employed by social networking sites. Oppose.</p>	<p>Failed Passage in Assembly Arts 6/28/10; Reconsideration Granted; Failed Deadline</p>
<p>Unworkable State Contract Framework. SB 1249 (Ducheny; D-San Diego) Before amendments, would have required that state entities award contracts based on a “best value” determination that includes consideration of a number of non-substantive factors, including workers’ compensation and whether the goods and services used to fulfill the contract would be provided by California businesses. Oppose.</p>	<p>Assembly Business, Professions and Consumer Protection 6/28/10; Failed Deadline</p>
<p>Expedited Jury Trials. AB 2284 (Evans; D-Santa Rosa) Establishes a new alternative to full-length jury trials, allowing individuals/organizations in California to resolve disputes efficiently and effectively, improving state’s legal climate and encouraging companies to expand/invest here. Support.</p>	<p>To Governor</p>
<p>Authorizes Fishing Expeditions Against Business. SB 1168 (Cedillo; D-Los Angeles) Allows the Los Angeles City Attorney’s Office to convene misdemeanor criminal grand jury investigations against employers, rather than having to file felony charges to justify such an investigation. Oppose.</p>	<p>Failed Passage in Assembly Public Safety 6/29/10; Failed Deadline</p>
<p>Rental Car Damage Waivers. AB 1731 (Tran; R-Garden Grove) Allows rental car companies to price damage waivers more appropriately, without eliminating affordable coverage for California consumers. Support.</p>	<p>Failed Passage in Senate Judiciary 6/29/10; Failed Deadline</p>
<p>Class Action Reform. AB 2588 (A. Strickland; R-Thousand Oaks) Reforms state law governing class action suits to make it more fair and equitable. Support.</p>	<p>Failed Passage in Assembly Judiciary 5/4/10; Reconsideration Granted; Failed Deadline</p>
<p>Reasonable Limits on Civil Damage Awards. AB 2740 (Niello; R-Fair Oaks) Prevents excessive damage awards in product liability cases by capping punitive damages in product liability cases to three times the amount of the compensatory damages, prohibiting punitive damages in cases where the government approved the product at issue, and capping non-economic damages in civil cases at \$250,000. Support.</p>	<p>Failed Passage in Assembly Judiciary 5/4/10; Reconsideration Granted; Failed Deadline</p>
<p>Reasonable Limits on Seller Liability. SB 1017 (Huff; R-Diamond Bar) Protects “innocent sellers” from liability for consequential damages to a buyer in an action for breach of warranty alleging that a product is defective. Support.</p>	<p>Senate Judiciary 2/18/10; Failed Deadline</p>
<p>Establishes Reasonable Interest Rate for Judgments. SB 1117 (Walters; R-Laguna Niguel) Establishes a new formula for calculating pre- and post-judgment interest. Support.</p>	<p>Failed Passage in Senate Judiciary 4/20/10; Reconsideration Granted; Failed Deadline</p>
<p>Reasonable Limits on Seller Liability. SBX8 69 (Huff; R-Diamond Bar) Protects “innocent sellers” from liability for consequential damages to a buyer in an action for breach of warranty alleging that a product is defective. Support.</p>	<p>Failed Passage in Senate Judiciary 2/25/10; Session Closed</p>
<p>Extends Liability Protection. SB 1281 (Padilla; D-Pacoima) Extends current liability protection to facilities that install AEDs (defibrillators) and removes certain training requirements that have proven to be unnecessary. Support.</p>	<p>Failed Passage in Senate Judiciary 5/5/10; Failed Deadline</p>
<p>Local Government</p>	
<p>Local Government Bankruptcies. AB 155 (Mendoza; D-Norwalk) Allows local governments to file for federal bankruptcy protection only after getting approval from California Debt and Investment Advisory Commission, thus delaying assistance from the bankruptcy courts and putting pressure on the local government to raise fees and taxes to continue services. Oppose.</p>	<p>Senate Third Reading 8/31/10; Dead</p>
<p>California-Only Contract Requirements. AB 1953 (Salas; D-Chula Vista) Adds protectionism language into law by requiring cities and counties to consider jobs in California when contracting for services. Oppose.</p>	<p>Assembly Local Government 4/20/10; Failed Deadline</p>

Other/Miscellaneous

Restricts Business Options. SB 967 (Correa; D-Santa Ana) Limits choice and drives up prices for consumers and for state and local government by providing a preference to bidders who commit that 90 percent of the work will be performed by California employees. Oppose/ Job Killer .	To Governor
Retail Restrictions. SB 603 (Padilla; D-Pacoima) Severely restricts retailers from growing their businesses in California by limiting the sale of a legal product in a legal venue. Oppose.	Assembly Governmental Organization 7/8/09; Failed Deadline
Ban on Sport Drinks. SB 1255 (Padilla; D-Pacoima) Limits choice of beverages sold on school campuses. Demonizes certain beverages over others. Oppose.	Held in Assembly Appropriations 8/13/10; Dead
Food Safety Training. SB 602 (Padilla; D-Pacoima) Industry-supported regulation requiring food handlers in restaurants to be trained and certified in basic food safety. Support.	To Governor
Encourages Efficiencies within CalWORKS. AB 1642 (Beall; D-San Jose) Introduces new efficiencies to CalWORKS programs by eliminating the quarterly reporting requirement and implementing a semi-annual reporting period. Support.	Held in Assembly Appropriations Suspense File 5/28/10; Failed Deadline
Encourages Economic Responsibility. SB 954 (Harman; R-Huntington Beach) Requires an economic review of all bills with a fiscal impact of \$10,000-\$50,000. Support.	Senate Rules 2/18/10; Failed Deadline
Encourages Economic Responsibility. SBX8 60 (Harman; R-Huntington Beach) Creates an economic impact committee to review all bills before the state Legislature to determine whether the state as a whole can afford any new proposal. Support.	Held in Senate Rules 5/10/10; Session Closed

Privacy and Confidentiality

New Liability for Hiring Decisions. AB 2727 (Bradford; D-Gardena) Increases potential liability exposure for hiring decisions by restricting the ability of employers to make their decision based on a job applicant's criminal conviction. Oppose/ Job Killer .	Held in Assembly Appropriations Suspense File 5/28/10; Failed Deadline
Gift Certificates: Redemption. SB 885 (Corbett; D-San Leandro) Before amendments, would have imposed new burdensome and infeasible regulations on businesses that provide gift cards to consumers. Neutral.	To Governor
Limits Marketing. AB 2112 (Monning; D-Carmel) Prohibits a person from knowingly disclosing or using records containing prescription information that contains personally identifying information for marketing purposes. Oppose.	Assembly Health 4/13/10; Failed Deadline
Victim's Compensation. SB 1087 (Alquist; D-Santa Clara) Requires persons convicted of identity theft to pay restitution to victims for cost of credit monitoring for a reasonable time and for economic losses. Support.	Signed—Chapter 107
Disclosures Requirement. SB 909 (Wright; D-Inglewood) Before amendments, would have imposed additional requirements on investigative consumer reporting agencies compiling information derived overseas or reports being transmitted overseas. Now requires agencies to disclose on primary Internet website that some information may be handled overseas. Neutral.	To Governor
Internet Verification. AB 230 (C. Calderon; D-Montebello) Imposes unnecessary Internet verification procedures for online activities. Creates a new private right of action. Compromises current proprietary safeguards undertaken by financial institutions to protect Internet transactions. Oppose.	Senate Judiciary 8/5/10

Small Business

Expanding Small Business Opportunity. AB 1771 (Mendoza; D-Norwalk) Helps promote new opportunities and business for small businesses and saves the state money by allowing state departments to award contracts of less than \$25,000 for goods or services by certified microbusinesses, small businesses or Disabled Veteran Business Enterprises (DVBES) without seeking an exemption of the Prison Industry Authority (PIA) mandate if they are able to make the product for less than the PIA. Support/ Job Creator .	Held in Assembly Appropriations Suspense File 5/28/10; Failed Deadline
Regulation Review. AB 1833 (Logue; R-Linda) Helps ensure that the economics of new and existing regulations are carefully considered by requiring certain agencies and boards to do more detailed analyses before action is taken to adopt, amend or appeal a regulation. Support.	Failed Passage in Assembly Business and Professions 4/6/10; Failed Deadline

<p>Small Business Impact Analysis. SB 356 (Wright; D-Inglewood) Clarifies who can obtain a judicial declaration as to the validity of specified regulations or orders of repeal, by bringing an action for declaratory relief. Before amendments, would have improved the small business climate in California by reforming the regulatory development process to include a specific small business economic impact analysis and other provisions that mitigate the cost of regulation to small business. No Position/Former Job Creator.</p>	<p>Assembly Rules 6/28/10; Dead</p>
<h2 style="color: red;">Taxation</h2>	
<p>Unreasonable and Duplicative Tax Penalties for Employers. AB 2498 (Skinner; D-Berkeley) Establishes a tax amnesty program related to “abusive tax avoidance transactions” along with severe penalties that could harm innocent taxpayers, as well as unfairly restrict the rights of attorneys and tax professionals to practice their professions. Oppose/Job Killer.</p>	<p>Senate Revenue and Taxation 6/24/10; Failed Deadline</p>
<p>Creates Employer Tax Credit Uncertainty. SB 1391 (Yee; D-San Francisco) Eliminates the incentive effect of future-enacted tax credits by requiring employers to repay the state for credits claimed in years where their businesses experience a net loss of employees, whether or not the reduction of employees was connected to the effectiveness of the incentive. Oppose/Job Killer.</p>	<p>Failed Passage in Senate 8/31/10</p>
<p>Undermines Taxpayer Rights. SB 1113 (Wolk; D-Davis) Makes it more costly and difficult for taxpayers to fight meritorious disputes and gives the Franchise Tax Board (FTB) the upper hand by allowing FTB to request a new court trial of tax cases it loses at the administrative level. Oppose/Job Killer.</p>	<p>Senate Inactive File 6/14/10; Failed Deadline</p>
<p>Discourages Investments. AB 2171 (C. Calderon; D-Montebello) Creates substantial uncertainty for employers and discourages future investment in the state by effectively creating an annual sunset for all investment incentives, including tax credits, deductions and exemptions, and caps how much can be claimed each year. Oppose/Job Killer.</p>	<p>Assembly Appropriations Suspense File 5/28/10; Failed Deadline</p>
<p>Higher Employer Property Taxes. AB 2492 (Ammiano; D-San Francisco) Undermines Proposition 13 protections and could result in higher property taxes for small businesses by creating an arbitrary and unfair standard for determining that a business property has changed ownership and needs to be reassessed. Oppose/Job Killer.</p>	<p>Assembly Third Reading 6/21/10</p>
<p>Undermines Economic Development. SB 974 (Steinberg; D-Sacramento) Threatens California’s economy and economic recovery by effectively gutting the California Enterprise Zone (EZ) program hiring tax credit and in turn increasing employer taxes in order to fund a new education tax credit. Oppose/Job Killer.</p>	<p>Assembly Jobs, Economic Development and the Economy 6/15/10</p>
<p>Tax Increase for California Employers. AB 1511 (De León; D-Los Angeles) Increases taxes for California employers and delays the state’s economic recovery by repealing the net operating loss (NOL) carry back deduction, making the single-sales factor apportionment formula mandatory, and extending the suspension of the NOL carryforward deduction and unitary credit sharing. Oppose/Job Killer.</p>	<p>Senate Revenue and Taxation 8/20/10</p>
<p>Discourages Business Growth in California. AB 1935 (De León; D-Los Angeles) Raises taxes for many companies with significant investments of property and payroll in California by making the single-sales factor apportionment method mandatory. Oppose/Job Killer.</p>	<p>Held in Assembly Appropriations Suspense File 5/28/10</p>
<p>Discourages Business Growth in California. SBX6 18 (Steinberg; D-Sacramento) Raises taxes for many out-of-state companies that have significant investments of property and payroll in California by making the single-sales factor apportionment method mandatory. Oppose/Job Killer.</p>	<p>Senate Revenue and Taxation 5/10/10</p>
<p>Creates Inequity in the Tax Structure. AB 1936 (De León; D-Los Angeles) Harms struggling small businesses and start-ups by repealing the NOL carry back deduction, a lifeline that helps employers stay afloat, retain employees and continue investing in their businesses in an economic downturn. Oppose/Job Killer.</p>	<p>Held in Assembly Appropriations Suspense File 5/28/10</p>
<p>Employer Tax Increase. SB 1316 (Romero; D-East Los Angeles) Places California out of step with federal law and creates a disincentive for multi-state companies to invest in California by making it the only state to impose a tax liability when a company needs flexibility to exchange a California property with one owned in another state. Oppose/Job Killer.</p>	<p>Senate Inactive File 8/30/10</p>
<p>Discourages Investments. AB 2641 (Arambula; I-Fresno) Creates uncertainty for California employers making long-term investment decisions by requiring all future-enacted investment incentives to sunset after five years, and eliminating existing incentives that provide no “measurable benefit” without defining how that benefit would be measured. Oppose/Job Killer.</p>	<p>Held in Assembly Appropriations Suspense File 5/28/10; Failed Deadline</p>
<p>Discourages Investment. SB 1272 (Wolk; D-Davis) Creates uncertainty for California employers making long-term investment decisions by requiring all future-enacted investment incentives to sunset after seven years. Oppose/Job Killer.</p>	<p>To Governor</p>

Discourages Investments. ACA 6 (C. Calderon; D-Montebello) Discourages investments in jobs and operations by imposing an automatic sunset of seven years on any new or extended tax credit, exemption or deduction. Oppose/ Job Killer .	Assembly Third Reading File 8/31/09
Increased Tax Burden. AB 1836 (Furutani; D-South Los Angeles County) Harms small businesses, many of whom pay taxes under the personal income tax system, by imposing another temporary personal income tax increase on top of the existing personal income tax increase that was passed in last year's budget. Oppose/ Job Killer .	Held in Assembly Revenue and Taxation Suspense File 5/10/10
Gas Price Increase. AB 656 (Torrico; D-Fremont) Increases gas prices and dependence on foreign oil by targeting the oil industry for a tax on only oil extracted in California, in addition to other taxes not levied in other states. Oppose/ Job Killer .	Senate Education 6/22/10
Gas Price Increase. AB 1604 (Nava; D-Santa Barbara) Increases gas prices and dependence on foreign oil by targeting the oil industry for a tax on only oil extracted in California, in addition to other taxes not levied in other states. Oppose/ Job Killer .	Assembly Revenue and Taxation 5/13/10
Gas Price Increase. ABX6 1 (Nava; D-Santa Barbara) Increases gas prices and dependence on foreign oil by targeting the oil industry for a tax on only oil extracted in California, in addition to other taxes not levied in other states. Oppose/ Job Killer .	Assembly Print 10/26/09
Targeted Tax Increase/Flawed Budget Philosophy. AB 2100 (Coto; D-San Jose) Threatens jobs in beverage, retail and restaurant industries by arbitrarily and unfairly targeting certain beverages for a new tax in order to fund obesity-prevention programs and services. Oppose/ Job Killer .	Assembly Revenue and Taxation 5/13/10
Targeted Tax Increase/Flawed Budget Philosophy. SB 1210 (Florez; D-Shafter) Threatens jobs in beverage, retail and restaurant industries by arbitrarily and unfairly targeting certain beverages for a new tax in order to fund obesity-prevention programs and services. Oppose/ Job Killer .	Senate Revenue and Taxation Suspense File 5/13/10
Targeted Tax Increase/Flawed Budget Philosophy. ACA 22 (Torlakson; D-Contra Costa) Exacerbates state budget problems and harms tobacco industry by unfairly targeting it for a new cigarette tax, a declining revenue source, to fund new government spending programs. Oppose/ Job Killer .	Assembly Governmental Organization 4/23/09
Removes Onerous Tax Burden. AB 697 (C. Calderon; D-Montebello) Relieves employers of an onerous, costly tax burden by prospectively repealing an unfair, strict liability tax penalty that applies even to reasonable tax disputes, that was enacted as part of the September 2008 budget. Support/ Job Creator .	Senate Revenue and Taxation Suspense File 7/8/09; Failed Deadline
Removes Onerous Tax Burden. SBX6 6 (Hollingsworth; R-Murrieta) Relieves employers of an onerous, costly tax burden by prospectively repealing an unfair, strict liability tax penalty that applies even to reasonable tax disputes, that was enacted as part of the September 2008 budget. Support/ Job Creator .	Failed Passage in Senate Revenue and Taxation 5/12/10; Reconsideration Granted
Unfair Taxation of Foreign Income. AB 1178 (Block; D-San Diego) Undermines water's-edge election by deeming foreign income from "tax havens" to be taxable. Oppose.	Gutted and amended to deal with federal health care conformity, 8/8/10.
Federal Health Care Conformity. AB 1178 (Portantino; D-La Cañada Flintridge) Last-minute conformity package put together without input from critical stakeholder groups attempts to bring state law into conformity with several provisions of federal health care bill that has already taken effect. Oppose.	Senate Appropriations 8/19/10
Removes Onerous Tax Burden. AB 2725 (Nestande; R-Palm Desert) Relieves employers of an onerous, costly tax burden by prospectively repealing an unfair, strict liability tax penalty that applies even to reasonable tax disputes, that was enacted as part of the September 2008 budget. Support.	Held in Assembly Revenue and Taxation Suspense File 4/19/10; Failed Deadline
New Tax Penalty. SBX8 32 (Wolk; D-Davis) Reduces complexity and waste in tax reporting and administration by conforming many California tax provisions to recent changes in federal tax law, but is harmful to the business community because it also includes a harsh, unfair new penalty on taxpayers. Oppose.	Vetoed
Simplifies Tax Code/Federal Conformity. SB 401 (Wolk; D-Davis) Reduces complexity and waste in tax reporting and administration by conforming many California tax provisions to recent changes in federal tax law and includes a conformity provision that gives financial relief to troubled borrowers by excluding debt forgiven by a lender from a borrower's taxable income. Support.	Signed—Chapter 14
Budget Bill. ABX8 8 (Committee on Budget) Among other things, hurts California's small businesses and high-tech jobs by encouraging out-of-state retailers to advertise and sell with affiliates in other states to avoid collecting our use tax and unfairly penalizes tax-compliant taxpayers by creating a new penalty that is so broad and vague it would penalize legitimate tax liability management. Oppose.	Assembly Rules 2/22/10; Session Closed
Unconstitutional Tax-Collection Burden for Businesses. AB 2078 (C. Calderon; D-Montebello) Commandeers retailers with no physical presence in California to aid in California's tax collection work, in violation of the U.S. Commerce Clause. Oppose.	Senate Inactive File 8/30/10; Dead

<p>Targeted Tax Increase/Flawed Budget Philosophy. AB 1694 (Beall; D-San Jose) Harms alcohol industry by proposing targeted tax increases on wine, beer and spirits in order to fund alcohol-related services. Oppose.</p>	<p>Failed Passage in Assembly Health 3/23/10; Reconsideration Granted; Failed Deadline</p>
<p>Stigmatizes Employers Using Tax Incentives. AB 2666 (Skinner; D-Berkeley) Stigmatizes California employers for taking advantage of investment incentives by requiring the Franchise Tax Board to provide private tax information in a searchable online database for the largest 250 publicly traded corporations that claim these incentives. Oppose.</p>	<p>To Governor</p>
<p>Stigmatizes Employers Using Tax Incentives. SB 1086 (Flores; D-Shafter) Stigmatizes California employers for taking advantage of investment incentives by requiring the Franchise Tax Board to provide related private tax information in a searchable online database. Oppose.</p>	<p>Senate Revenue and Taxation 4/12/10; Failed Deadline</p>
<p>Stigmatizes Employers Using Tax Incentives. AB 2230 (C. Calderon; D-Montebello) Stigmatizes California employers that take advantage of investment incentives by making private taxpayer information for the 100 largest publicly traded corporations in the state available on the Franchise Tax Board website. Oppose.</p>	<p>Assembly Inactive File 6/3/10; Failed Deadline</p>
<p>Stigmatizes Employers Using Tax Incentives. SBX6 19 (Flores; D-Shafter) Stigmatizes California employers for taking advantage of investment incentives by requiring the Franchise Tax Board to provide related private tax information in a searchable online database. Oppose.</p>	<p>Senate Appropriations Suspense File 6/30/10</p>
<p>Taxpayer Protection in Board of Equalization Proceedings. AB 2195 (Silva; R-Huntington Beach) Increases burden of proof for Board of Equalization to clear and convincing evidence standard for intent to evade fraud penalties. Support.</p>	<p>Signed—Chapter 168</p>
<p>Costly New Tax Increases. AB 2113 (Evans; D-Santa Rosa) Could create costly, tremendous new administrative burdens for the state and employers and result in potential tax increases at a time when both the state and employers are short on revenue, by authorizing for the first time in state history as many as 58 counties to impose a patchwork of local personal income taxes and vehicle license fees with the approval of a majority of voters. Oppose.</p>	<p>Assembly Local Government 4/7/10; Failed Deadline</p>
<p>Equitable Administration of Interest by Board of Equalization. SB 1028 (Correa; D-Santa Ana) Provides taxpayer fairness by allowing Board of Equalization to compute interest due on a monthly basis when equitable. Support.</p>	<p>To Governor</p>
<p>Undermines Taxpayer Privacy. SB 1036 (Cedillo; D-Los Angeles) Expands local government access to tax information to third parties. Oppose.</p>	<p>Failed Passage in Assembly Revenue and Taxation 6/28/10; Dead</p>
<p>Use Tax Registration Fix for Small Businesses. SB 884 (Ashburn; R-Bakersfield) Provides temporary relief to small businesses that are struggling to comply with the use tax registration requirement enacted last July to help improve use tax collection efforts. Support if amended.</p>	<p>Held at Assembly Desk 8/9/10; Dead</p>
<p>Use Tax Registration Fix for Small Businesses. SB 1110 (Runner; R-Antelope Valley) Provides temporary relief to small businesses that are struggling to comply with the use tax registration requirement enacted last July to help improve use tax collection efforts. Support.</p>	<p>Senate Revenue and Taxation 4/20/10; Dead</p>
<p>Tax Exemption for Federal Energy Grants. AB 1705 (V. M. Pérez; D-Coachella) Provides tax benefit to taxpayers who receive federal grants for certain energy-savings equipment by conforming California law to federal law to exclude grant income from taxes. Support.</p>	<p>Held in Assembly Revenue and Taxation Suspense File 5/10/10</p>
<p>Telecommunications</p>	
<p>Imposes Mandates on Private Contracts. SB 920 (Yee; D-San Francisco) Imposes inappropriate mandates on private contracts between two businesses and adds burdensome regulations to the white and yellow pages industry. Oppose.</p>	<p>Senate Inactive File 6/14/10; Dead</p>
<p>Implements Protectionist Measures. AB 2690 (De La Torre; D-South Gate) Unreasonably restricts the use of commercial call centers outside of the state, limiting choices and driving up prices for consumers and for the state. Oppose.</p>	<p>Failed Passage in Assembly Utilities and Commerce 5/3/10; Reconsideration Granted; Failed Deadline</p>
<p>Tourism</p>	
<p>Increases Construction Jobs. SB 1192 (Oropeza; D-Long Beach) Creates construction jobs building travel infrastructure and creates a better travel environment for state business and tourism. Support/ Job Creator.</p>	<p>To Governor</p>

Increases Business Liability. AB 1652 (Jones; D-Sacramento) Before amendments, would have placed substantial burdens on California ski resorts and opened them up to significant increased liability by requiring them to make their safety plans available to the public or publish them on the resort's website. No Position.	To Governor
Legal Burden for Rental Car Companies. AB 2059 (C. Calderon; D-Montebello) Before amendments, would have required car rental companies to accept service of process for international renters who purchase supplemental liability coverage, and to notify them of service at the rental company's expense. As amended, requires car rental companies to accept service of process for international renters who purchase supplemental liability coverage, and to notify them of service. Neutral.	To Governor
Transportation and Infrastructure	
Increased Construction Jobs. AB 2098 (Miller; R-Corona) Authorizes Riverside County Transportation Commission to use design-build to construct a portion of State Highway 91, thus putting more jobs on the ground more quickly. Support/ Job Creator.	To Governor
Protectionist Language in High-Speed Rail Authority. AB 619 (Blumenfeld; D-San Fernando Valley) Increases the cost of the high-speed rail system and chances for delays by requiring companies bidding for contracts to acknowledge they were not involved in the deportation of concentration camp victims during World War II. Oppose.	To Governor
County Design-Build. SB 879 (Cox; R-Fair Oaks) Makes local public works projects more efficient, less costly, and puts jobs on the ground more quickly by extending the sunset for design-build authorization for counties. Support.	To Governor
Health Care District Design-Build. SB 1005 (Cox; R-Fair Oaks) Makes the construction and retrofit of public hospitals more efficient, less costly and puts jobs on the ground more quickly by authorizing health care districts to use design-build public contracting. Support.	Failed Assembly Appropriations 8/4/10; Failed Deadline
State-Level Passenger Bill of Rights. SB 1264 (Leno; D-San Francisco) Creates a confusing patchwork of state and federal laws by establishing a state-level passenger bill of rights that would be pre-empted by federal laws and court cases. Oppose.	Senate Inactive File 6/24/10; Failed Deadline
Equipment Performance Standards. AB 2738 (Niello; R-Fair Oaks) Directs state regulators to set performance standards rather than mandate the use of specific technologies, equipment, actions or procedures. Support.	To Governor
Port Infrastructure Investments. AB 2687 (Bradford; D-Gardena) Promotes job development in ports and surrounding areas by allowing ports to receive tax credits for their investments in infrastructure and environmental improvement projects. Support.	Held in Assembly Appropriations Suspense File 5/28/10; Failed Deadline
Infrastructure Bank: Local Assistance Programs. AB 2518 (V. M. Pérez; D-Coachella) Supports the economy of small and rural communities by authorizing the California Infrastructure Bank to create local assistance programs to help these communities find financing for local infrastructure projects. Support.	Held in Assembly Appropriations Suspense File 5/28/10; Failed Deadline
Gas Tax Swap. ABX8 6 (Committee on Budget) Authorization for metropolitan planning organizations to raise taxes and suspension of unitary tax credit and NOL tax credit has been removed. Increases diesel sales tax on some industries. Oppose.	Signed—Chapter 11
Gas Tax Swap. SBX8 6 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review) Implements the gas tax swap, authorizes metropolitan planning organizations to enact taxes and suspends the implementation of two tax credits: the NOL and unitary tax. Oppose.	Senate Unfinished Business 2/23/10; Session Closed
Engineering Firms. SB 1008 (Padilla; D-Pacoima) Allows engineering and land surveying firms to organize as a limited liability partnership (LLP). This gives them more flexibility to grow and to create more specialty partnerships that will boost project delivery options. Support.	To Governor
Continuation of C-17 Production. SJR 29 (Wright; D-Inglewood) Urges U.S. government to extend C-17 production in Long Beach. Support.	Resolution Chapter 138
National Freight Policy. SJR 33 (A. Lowenthal; D-Long Beach) Urges the U.S. Congress to create a national freight policy as a component of the next federal transportation bill, which will promote improved investment in the national and international supply chains. Support.	Resolution Chapter 100
Diversion of Local Transportation Funds. AB 2620 (Eng; D-Monterey Park) Before amendments, threatened local transportation projects by shifting toll revenues to the state highway operation and protection program (SHOPP) but without protections against diversions of those funds for other state purposes. Now reimburses for CalTrans capital outlay support services. No Position.	Senate Appropriations 8/2/10; Failed Deadline

Unemployment Insurance

Suspension of Regulations. SB 1438 (DeSaulnier; D-Concord) Gives discretion without limit or direction, to state auditor and Employment Development Department to potentially irresponsibly suspend regulations to speed delivery of unemployment insurance benefit payments. Oppose.	Senate Labor and Industrial Relations 4/12/10; Failed Deadline
Increased Unemployment Insurance Costs. AB 2030 (Yamada; D-Davis) Increases costs to employers by creating new program without new funding, and without adequate controls, to provide unemployment insurance benefits to unemployed individuals seeking to become self employed. Oppose.	Held in Assembly Appropriations Suspense File 5/28/10; Failed Deadline
Costly Program Expansion. SB 968 (Negrete McLeod; D-Chino) Broadly expands unemployment insurance benefits for enrollment in any training or education without requiring a connection to employment upon completion. Oppose.	Held in Assembly Appropriations 8/12/10; Dead
Increased Costs to Unemployment Insurance Administrator. AB 1827 (Arambula; I-Fresno) Significantly shifts costs/resources used to administer Unemployment Insurance Fund, potentially creating disruption in delivery of benefits to the unemployed. Requires Employment Development Department to provide in-person unemployment benefit assistance at a comprehensive one-stop career center. Oppose.	Held in Senate Appropriations 8/12/10; Dead
Increased Costs to Unemployment Insurance Administrator. AB 857 (Galgiani; D-Livingston) Significantly shifts costs/resources used to administer Unemployment Insurance Fund, potentially creating disruption in delivery of benefits to the unemployed. Requires Employment Development Department to provide in-person unemployment benefit assistance at a comprehensive one-stop career center. Oppose.	Held in Senate Appropriations Suspense File 8/27/09; Dead
California Training Benefits Program. AB 2058 (Block; D-San Diego) Before amendments, broadly expanded unemployment insurance benefits for enrollment in any training or education without requiring a connection to employment upon completion. Now streamlines the delivery of unemployment insurance benefits to individuals who qualify for the California Training Benefits Program. No Position.	To Governor

Water Supply and Quality

Peripheral Canal. AB 1594 (Huber; D-El Dorado Hills) Impedes progress on the comprehensive Delta fix agreed to in 2009 by requiring redundant economic reviews and legislative interference in the design of future water systems. Oppose.	Held in Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife 4/27/10; Failed Deadline
Water Rights. SB 565 (Pavley; D-Agoura Hills) Reduces or eliminates some due process and private property rights protections for water rights holders. Expands State Water Board's investigative authority, increases some existing penalties and imposes several new penalties for diversions. Oppose.	Assembly Inactive File 8/30/10; Dead
Water Transfers. AB 2049 (Arambula; I-Fresno) Limits agriculture to urban water transfers to 20 years or less. Imposes additional unwarranted requirements. Oppose.	Failed Passage in Assembly 6/3/10; Failed Deadline
Water Transfers. AB 2776 (Huffman; D-San Rafael) Limits agriculture to urban water transfers to 20 years or less. Imposes additional unwarranted requirements. Oppose.	Senate Appropriations 7/15/10; Dead
Land Use. AB 2595 (Huffman; D-San Rafael) Limits local land use and priority setting by expanding the State Water Board's authority beyond the California Water Code to include non water-related activities. Oppose.	Senate Inactive File 8/30/10; Dead
Mandatory Minimum Penalties. SB 1284 (Ducheny; D-San Diego) Disallows compounding mandatory penalties for violations that are non-threatening like failing to report that a facility had no discharge under its permit unless the water board has given notice of the violation. Sponsor/Co-Sponsor.	To Governor
Property Rights. AB 2304 (Huffman; D-San Rafael) Potentially abrogates private property rights by expanding groundwater recharge area mapping without notice to overlaying landowner. Oppose.	To Governor
California Water Commission. Terms. AB 1260 (Fuller; R-Bakersfield) Updates obsolete terms of appointments for commissioners. Support.	Signed—Chapter 125
Water Bond. AB 1265 (Caballero; D-Salinas) Places the water bond on the November 2012 ballot. Allows Joint Power Authorities to include non-governmental entities in their membership but bars for-profit entities membership. Support.	Signed—Chapter 126
Invasive Species Investigation. AB 2336 (Fuller; R-Bakersfield) Requires council to include in the Delta Plan an evaluation of invasive species effect on native species; no funding supplied. Support.	Held in Senate Natural Resources and Water 6/29/10; Failed Deadline

CEQA Exemption. AB 1704 (Jeffries; R-Lake Elsinore) Encourages the use of recycled water by exempting installation of underground pipelines that carry recycled water beneath public rights of way from CEQA. Support.	Failed Passage in Assembly Natural Resources 4/19/10; Failed Deadline
Water Conservation. SB 261 (Dutton; R-Rancho Cucamonga) Requires ag and urban water suppliers to have and implement a water use efficiency and conservation plan to meet the goal of reducing water consumption by 20 percent by 2020. Support.	Assembly Appropriations Suspense File 8/19/09; Failed Deadline
Water Conservation. AB 300 (Caballero; D-Salinas) Promotes greater water use reductions in new subdivisions by encouraging voluntary water conservation measures in new homes. Measures must be permanently attached to building. Support.	Senate Natural Resources and Water 7/7/09; Failed Deadline
Water Conservation. AB 49 (Feuer; D-Los Angeles) Implements mandatory water conservation and water use efficiency programs detrimental to business and agriculture. Oppose.	Assembly Inactive File 1/27/10; Failed Deadline
Workers' Compensation	
Workers' Compensation Apportionment. SB 145 (DeSaulnier; D-Concord) Erodes recent workers' compensation reforms and leads to higher premiums for California employers by undercutting fair and reasonable provisions in current law that protect an employer from paying for disability that was not caused by a workplace accident. Oppose/ Job Killer .	To Governor
Increased Workers' Compensation Costs. AB 1994 (Skinner; D-Berkeley) Inappropriately increases costs to employers by expanding workers' compensation presumptions into the private sector for the first time by allowing hospital workers to be eligible for various presumptions including H1N1, MRSA, and other diseases and injuries. Oppose/ Job Killer .	Held in Assembly Appropriations Suspense File 5/28/10; Failed Deadline
Utilization Review. AB 933 (Fong; D-Cupertino) Increases the cost of performing utilization review (UR) on medical treatment requests by requiring all doctors who make UR decisions to be licensed in California. Oppose.	To Governor
Increased Workers' Compensation Costs. AB 2253 (Coto; D-San Jose) Drives up workers' compensation costs for public sector employers and creates pressure to apply similar presumptions to the private sector by giving public safety employees an extended timeframe to file for the cancer presumption from 60 months, or five years, to 120 months, or 10 years, after the termination of employment. Oppose.	To Governor
Compounding Drugs Limitations. AB 2779 (Solorio; D-Anaheim) Lowers pharmaceutical costs in the workers' compensation system by addressing the abuse of medical and billing practices in regards to the compounding of drugs. Support.	Senate Inactive File 8/24/10; Dead
Workers' Compensation Coverage. SB 1254 (Leno; D-San Francisco) Authorizes the state to issue stop order to a contractor that does not have workers' compensation coverage. Support.	To Governor
Increased Workers' Compensation Costs. AB 2269 (Adams; R-Hesperia) Increases the state's workers' compensation costs and increases pressure to apply the presumption to the private sector by extending heart trouble presumptions to certain employees of the Department of Corrections who work in state hospitals. Oppose.	Held in Assembly Appropriations Suspense File 5/28/10; Failed Deadline
Temporary Disability Benefits Extension. AB 1603 (Solorio; D-Anaheim) Harms employers by extending temporary disability benefits between permanent and stationary and employment offer. Oppose.	Assembly Insurance 5/5/10; Failed Deadline
Increased Pharmacy Costs. AB 2593 (Bradford; D-Gardena) Delinks pharmacy services from Medicare and gets reimbursement to average wholesale price minus 17 percent. Oppose.	Assembly Insurance 5/5/10; Failed Deadline
Group Self-Insurance Audits. SB 683 (R. Calderon; D-Montebello) Increases transparency by requiring a group self-insurer to annually file with the Division of Workers' Compensation an audit of financial ad claim information by an independent third-party CPA; prohibits the information from specific individual members from being made public. Oppose Unless Amended.	Assembly Insurance 7/8/09; Failed Deadline
Streamlined Medicare Claims Resolution. AJR 42 (Solorio; D-Anaheim) Allows parties to more quickly settle claims involving Medicare beneficiaries by providing them important information about potential Medicare Secondary Payer claims, and allowing them to more quickly, and with finality, settle claims they may have against third parties. Support.	Resolution Chapter 92

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