

CalChamber Committees

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California Chamber of Commerce policy committees draft and review policy and make recommendations to the Board of Directors on a range of issues. The CalChamber also establishes ad hoc committees as the need arises to address other policy issues. Committees range in size from eight to 100 members, and meet between two and four times a year (or, as needed) at locations throughout California or via telephone conference calls. Committee chairs generally are members of the CalChamber Board of Directors and work closely with CalChamber policy team members, permitting the CalChamber to act quickly as issues emerge. Membership in committees (other than those whose membership is by appointment) is open to managers, technicians and/or policy experts with member firms. To get involved, submit the form at www.calchamber.com/getinvolved.

Policy Committees

Chemical Policy

Goal: Simplify compliance obligations, minimize compliance cost for businesses, support use of best available scientific evidence, reduce frivolous litigation and prevent “overwarning.”

Staff: Louinda Lacey
louinda.lacey@calchamber.com

Education

Goal: Foster greater business involvement to improve both teacher and student performance, and administrative accountability in schools throughout California. (Membership by appointment.)

Staff: Karen Sarkissian
karen.sarkissian@calchamber.com

Environmental Policy

Goal: Oversee issues related to the environment, such as air quality, climate change and AB 32 implementation, the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Proposition 65 and green chemistry, hazardous and solid waste, surface mining and land use issues. Recommends policies that meet the mutual objectives of protecting human health and the environment while conserving the financial resources of business to the fullest extent possible in order to help California businesses grow and promote their technologies/services.

Staff: Louinda Lacey
louinda.lacey@calchamber.com
Amy Mmagu
amy.mmagu@calchamber.com

Health Care Policy

Goal: Promote a sound and affordable health care system. Work to contain costs and avoid unnecessary and expensive regulatory controls, including mandates.

Staff: Karen Sarkissian
karen.sarkissian@calchamber.com

Labor and Employment

Goal: Protect employers’ rights to, direct and manage their companies’ employees in an efficient, safe and productive manner.

Staff: Jennifer Barrera
jennifer.barrera@calchamber.com

Legal Reform and Protection

Goal: Seek comprehensive tort reform that will prevent lawsuit abuse, halt runaway liability risk, and promote greater fairness, efficiency and economy in the civil justice system.

Staff: Jennifer Barrera
jennifer.barrera@calchamber.com

Taxation

Goal: Monitor legislation and regulatory activity to ensure that California tax laws are fair and can be administered easily. Review state spending plans to make certain that economy and efficiency are the primary goals of government.

Staff: Jennifer Barrera
jennifer.barrera@calchamber.com

Tourism

Goal: Encourage increased travel to California by fostering investment in advertising and improvements to tourism infrastructure, considering the important role of tourism in the state’s economy and plans for economic recovery. (Membership by appointment.)

Staff: Marti Fisher
marti.fisher@calchamber.com

Transportation and Infrastructure

Goal: Develop and maintain a statewide transportation network that is adequate for the needs of business, agriculture and individual citizens.

Staff: Amy Mmagu
amy.mmagu@calchamber.com

Expanding Opportunity An Agenda for All Californians

2017 Business Issues and Legislative Guide

See the entire CalChamber 2017 Business Issues and Legislative Guide at
www.calchamber.com/businessissues
Free PDF or epub available to download.

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Water Resources

Goal: Encourage responsible water quality goals and water development policies to meet the increasing demand for reliable water supplies. (Membership by appointment.)

Staff: Valerie Nera
valerie.nera@calchamber.com

Workers' Compensation

Goal: Promote legislative, judicial and regulatory actions that maintain an efficient workers' compensation system that provides adequate worker benefits while protecting the competitive position of California employers.

Staff: Jeanne Cain
jeanne.cain@calchamber.com

Ad Hoc Committees

Agriculture and Natural Resources

Goal: Provide agricultural employers with a conduit for communicating with lawmakers and advocating environmentally sound development and use of agricultural and natural resources in a manner that provides optimum economic benefits while protecting property rights.

Staff: Valerie Nera
valerie.nera@calchamber.com

Energy and Telecommunications

Goal: Recommend policies on issues concerning utilities and commerce, including electricity, telecommunications, commercial transactions, corporate governance, economic stimulus and development.

Staff: Amy Mmagu
amy.mmagu@calchamber.com
Valerie Nera
valerie.nera@calchamber.com

Immigration

Goal: Recommend policies on issues concerning immigration.

Staff: Marti Fisher
marti.fisher@calchamber.com

Political Action Committees

The California Chamber of Commerce has established two political action committees (PAC) to help focus business efforts to provide financial support to pro-jobs candidates or issues campaigns.

ChamberPAC

Goal: Provide financial support to business-friendly incumbent legislators and candidates for state legislative and local office.

Staff: Martin R. Wilson
martin.wilson@calchamber.com

CalBusPAC

Goal: Provide funding to help qualify, support and/or oppose statewide ballot initiatives.

Staff: Martin R. Wilson
martin.wilson@calchamber.com

Special Committees

Public Affairs Council

Goal: Advise CalChamber on key political issues affecting the business community. (Must be CalChamber Advocate-level member to join.)

Staff: Martin R. Wilson
martin.wilson@calchamber.com

California Chamber Fundraising Committee

Goal: Provide guidance and assistance to the CalChamber in its political fundraising efforts. (Must be a member of the CalChamber Board of Directors to join.)

Staff: Martin R. Wilson
martin.wilson@calchamber.com

Council for International Trade

Goal: Support expansion of international trade and investment, fair and equitable market access for California products abroad, and elimination of disincentives that impede the international competitiveness of California business.

Staff: Susanne T. Stirling
susanne.stirling@calchamber.com

Economic Advisory Council

Goal: Provide quarterly forecasts of the California economy and coordinate special economic studies. Council members include business economists from a variety of industries and from government.

Staff: Dave Kilby
dave.kilby@calchamber.com