

## 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](http://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:** Jennifer Barrera  
*jennifer.barrera@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:** 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:** Laura Curtis  
*laura.curtis@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:** Kevin McKinley  
*kevin.mckinley@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

## 2018 Business Issues and Legislative Guide

See the entire CalChamber 2018 Business Issues and Legislative Guide at  
[www.calchamber.com/businessissues](http://www.calchamber.com/businessissues)  
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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:** Laura Curtis  
*laura.curtis@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*  
Kevin McKinley  
*kevin.mckinley@calchamber.com*

#### Immigration

**Goal:** Recommend policies on issues concerning immigration.

**Staff:** Marti Fisher  
*marti.fisher@calchamber.com*

### Working Groups

#### Occupational Safety Advisory Group

**Goal:** Advocate cost-effective and practical safety and health regulations while protecting the competitive position of California employers. (Subcommittee of Labor and Employment Committee)

**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*