VOLUME 42, NUMBER 23 • JULY 29, 2016



## Job Killer Vote Record: Key Wins; Battles Remain

This edition of *Alert*presents a recap of floor
votes taken on job
killer bills before the
Legislature's summer
recess, as well as 2015
votes on a couple of job
killer bills that still could

be taken up this year.

Strong opposition from the California Chamber of Commerce and allies has stopped a number of job killer bills, including two that failed in Assembly floor votes. Just nine job killer proposals remain alive for consideration when legislators return from their summer break on August 1.

The full list and current status of the 23 job killer bills identified this year appear at www.CAJobKillers.com.

Below are the bills covered in this interim job killer vote record.

### **Affordable Housing Barriers**

• SB 1150 (Leno; D-San Francisco) Erodes Housing Availability: Increases liability risk and the cost of residential loans by allowing a party not on the mortgage loan to interfere with appropriate foreclosures and creates a private right of action for violations of overly complex and burdensome requirements. Passed Senate, June 1, 21-14. Assembly Floor.

• SB 1318 (Wolk; D-Davis) Erodes Housing Affordability: Inappropriately leverages necessary affordable housing in order to solve infrastructure issues with the consequence that the housing won't be built by imposing requirements on water or waste water districts to serve certain communities first. Passed Senate, June 2, 23-13. Held in Assembly Local Government Committee, June 9; Failed Deadline.

See Job Killer Vote: Page 4

## Experienced Litigator Joins CalChamber Advocacy Team



Karen Sarkissian

Karen Sarkissian, former partner in a nationally recognized firm of successful trial attorneys, has joined the California Chamber of Commerce as a policy advocate on health care and education issues.

For more than 12 years, she was an associate and then partner at Poswall, White & Cutler of Sacramento, litigating and resolving cases ranging from medical, dental and legal malpractice, to premises liability, employment law, automobile accidents, elder abuse, sexual abuse and civil rights. Sarkissian and a colleague tried and won the first expedited jury trial in Sacramento County in March 2011.

"We are delighted to welcome Karen to CalChamber" said President and CEO Allan Zaremberg. "Karen brings a wealth of advocacy and leadership skills to the CalChamber's policy team, as well as a thorough understanding of California law. I am confident that California's businesses will be well-represented by Karen in front of the Legislature and administrative agencies."

Fluent in Armenian, Sarkissian was commissioned by the Sacramento Superior Court to translate thousands of legal words, phrases, terms and statutes for the

See Experienced Litigator: Page 3

## Governor Signs CalChamber-Backed Bill



A California Chamber of Commerce-supported bill that clarifies the employees for whom an employer must track hours worked and record those

hours on an itemized wage statement has been signed into law.

AB 2535 (Ridley-Thomas; D-Los Angeles) clarifies existing law that only nonexempt employees and others who are

paid according to hours worked are required to have their hours tracked and logged on an itemized wage statement. The clarification will preclude frivolous and costly litigation with regard to hours worked by exempt employees.

The long-standing industry practice and interpretation of California law has been that an employer needs to track the hours of only nonexempt employees, not employees who are exempt under the Industrial Welfare Commission Wage Orders or Labor Code.

AB 2535 confirms this understanding to eliminate any ambiguity on the issue. **Staff Contact: Jennifer Barrera** 

### -Inside-

Job Killer Vote Record: Pages 5–7



## Labor Law Corner

## Policy Determines Vacation Accrual During Probationary Period



Barbara Wilber HR Adviser

If an employee is terminated before completing a 90-day probationary period, do we have to pay accrued vacation?

Yes, in most instances you are required to prorate vacation even when an employee does not complete the probationary period. It depends on whether a vacation policy exists and how the policy is written.

Employers in California are not required to provide vacation for their employees. If

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Alert (ISSN 0882-0929) is published weekly during legislative session with exceptions by California Chamber of Commerce, 1215 K Street, Suite 1400, Sacramento, CA 95814-3918. Subscription price is \$50 paid through membership dues. Periodicals Postage Paid at Sacramento, CA.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Alert, 1215 K Street, Suite 1400, Sacramento, CA 95814-3918. Publisher: Allan Zaremberg. Executive Editor: Ann Amioka. Associate Editor: Sara Espinosa. Art Director: Neil Ishikawa. Capitol Correspondent: Christine Haddon.

Permission granted to reprint articles if credit is given to the California Chamber of Commerce Alert, and reprint is mailed to Alert at address above.

Email: alert@calchamber.com. Home page: www.calchamber.com. an employer has not established a vacation policy, vacation is not owed.

Once a policy is established, an employer must comply with Labor Code Section 227.3 and prorate any vested vacation time at termination of employment.

#### Labor Code

Labor Code Section 227.3. Unless otherwise provided by a collective bargaining agreement, whenever a contract of employment or employer policy provides for paid vacation, and an employee is terminated without having taken off his vested vacation time, all vested vacation shall be paid to the employee as wages at his final rate in accordance with such contract of employment or employer policy respecting eligibility or time served; provided, however, that an employment contract or employer policy shall not provide forfeiture of vested vacation time upon termination.

#### **Vacation Policies**

The policy determines when vacation is actually earned and vested. When a vacation policy provides vacation accrual on the date of hire and is fully earned on the employee's yearly anniversary date, the time earned during the probationary period is owed to the employee upon termination.

A policy may be written in such a way

that the accrual does not begin until the completion of a specified probationary period. This type of policy must be clearly written and a few rules apply.

For example, to completely exclude the probationary period, the employee may start to accrue on the 91st day and fully earn the full vacation hours one year from the 91st day. This method clearly excludes the probationary period from accrual.

Another valid method is to start accrual on the 91st day at a rate that results in a prorated portion of the full yearly accrual on the employee's anniversary date.

## **Proportional Earnings**

The Division of Labor Standards Enforcement does not accept as valid any method that results in an acceleration of accrual starting on the 91st day that reverts to a lesser accrual for the next year. All vacation earnings must be proportional.

Review your policies to make sure prorated vacation is being paid correctly.

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 at www.calchamber.com/events. Labor Law

Leaves of Absence. CalChamber. August 16, Sacramento. (800) 331-8877.

HR Boot Camp. CalChamber. September 7, San Diego; September 22, Sacramento. (800) 331-8877.

Independent Contractor or Employee? Costly Mistakes Employers Make. CalChamber. September 15, Webinar. (800) 331-8877.

### **Business Resources**

Grow California Business Summit. Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development. August 17, Sacramento.

#### International Trade

TradeX-Trade Connect. Port of Los
Angeles and Orange County Small
Business Development Center. August
9, Mission Viejo. (310) 732-7765.
California Pavilion Hong Kong Food

- Expo. Hong Kong Trade Development Council. August 11–13, Hong Kong. (916) 563-3222.
- Conference on Industrial Development in Saudi Arabia. U.S.-Saudi Arabian Business Council. August 25, Beverly Hills. (703) 962-9300.
- Global Cultural and Business Practices. Port of Los Angeles. September 14, Santa Clarita. (310) 732-7765.
- SBA Export Lender Roundtable. U.S. Small Business Administration. September 20, San Jose.
- G-20Ŷ Summit. G-20Y Association. September 21–25, St. Moritz, Switzerland.
- 2016 Public Forum on "Inclusive Trade." World Trade Organization. September 27–29, Geneva, Switzerland.
- 2016 Sima-Sipsa International Ag Expo. U.S.-Algeria Business Council. See CalChamber-Sponsored: Page 3





## Paid Sick Leave: Remember Local Ordinances in Six Cities



Employers in six California cities must consider paid sick leave requirements established by local ordinances in addition to the state paid sick leave law that marked its one-year anniver-

sary on July 1.

All six cities also have their own minimum wage ordinance.

When state and local paid sick leave laws conflict, employers should follow the requirement that is more generous to employees.

Following are the six cities with paid sick leave ordinances in the order in which the paid sick leave requirement first went into effect:

- San Francisco: First took effect February 5, 2007. A revision to the ordinance will take effect on January 1, 2017.
- Oakland: First took effect March 2, 2015.



Los Angeles is one of six cities in California that have adopted both a paid sick leave ordinance and minimum wage ordinance.

- Emeryville: First took effect July 2,
- Los Angeles: First took effect July 1, 2016.
- San Diego: First took effect July 11, 2016
- Santa Monica: Will take effect January 1, 2017.

Two resources that can help employers sort out the paid sick leave requirements set by local ordinances are available to California Chamber of Commerce members through the *HRCalifornia* website.

- The "Local Minimum Wage and Paid Sick Leave Ordinances" chart, listing the cities with paid sick leave and minimum wage requirements and including links to the city websites.
- •A comparison of requirements of "California State and City Paid Sick Leave Laws," prepared by Fox Rothschild LLP, attorneys at law. The chart provides an overview of subjects such as which employees are covered, excluded employees, permitted uses of the paid sick leave, covered family members, accrual methods, accrual caps, carry over, use increments, notice requirements for employees and employers, doctor's note or required documentation, record retention requirements, and enforcement.

Nonmembers can sign up for a free trial of *HRCalifornia* at *www. hrcalifornia.com/freetrial*.

# CalChamber-Sponsored Seminars/Trade Shows

From Page 2

October 4–7, Algiers, Algeria. (703) 418-4150.

Think Canada Global Business Summit. Think Canada. October 19–20, Niagara Falls, Canada.

GetGlobal. Geoskope. October 20–21, Los Angeles.

## Experienced Litigator Joins CalChamber Team

From Page 1

English/Armenian Legal Glossary published by the court in 2005. In addition to being used in California, the glossary is in use in Washington, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Hawaii and Colorado.

Sarkissian holds dual B.A.s in political science, and rhetoric and communica-

tion from the University of California, Davis. She earned her J.D. from the McGeorge School of Law, University of the Pacific, where she was an author and editor of the *McGeorge Law Review*. While at McGeorge, she received the Witkin Award of Academic Excellence in Government Lawyering.

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## Job Killer Vote Record: Key Wins; Battles Remain

From Page 1

### **Arbitration Discrimination**

• AB 2667 (Thurmond; D-Richmond) Consumer Arbitration Agreement Discrimination: Unfairly discriminates against arbitration agreements and therefore is likely preempted by the Federal Arbitration Act, which will lead to confusion and litigation, by prohibiting arbitration of Unruh Civil Rights violations made as a condition of a consumer contract for goods or services. Failed passage in Assembly, May 31, 38-36.

## **Burdensome Environmental Regulation**

• SB 32 (Pavley; D-Agoura Hills) Slows Economic Growth: Increases costs for California businesses, makes them less competitive and discourages economic growth by adopting further greenhouse gas emission reductions for 2030 without regard to the impact on individuals, jobs and the economy. Passed Senate, June 3, 2015, 24-15. Failed passage in Assembly, September 8, 2015, 30-35. Reconsideration granted. Assembly Appropriations Committee hearing, August 3.

• SB 654 (de León; D-Los Angeles) Creates Unworkable Hazardous Waste Permitting Process: Discourages investment in upgrading and improving hazardous waste facilities by shutting down hazardous waste facilities if the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) fails to take final action on the permit renewal application within a specified timeframe, even if the permit applicant acted diligently and in good faith throughout the permit application process. Passed Senate, June 4, 2015, 21-16. Assembly Inactive File, September 8, 2015; Failed Deadline.

### **Economic Development Barriers**

• AB 1611 (Committee on Budget)
Increased Permit Processing Costs:
Significantly increases the costs of permitting aerospace, recycling, oil and gas, and other critical waste facilities by eliminating permit applicants' option to be charged a predictable flat permitting fee and instead giving the Department of Toxic Substances Control carte blanche to charge whatever fee it determines,

notwithstanding well-recognized and self-acknowledged deficiencies in DTSC's current permitting program that have resulted in excessive delays in permit processing. *Passed Senate, June* 27, 23-13. Assembly concurrence in Senate amendments pending.

• SB 839 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review) Increased Permit **Processing Costs:** Significantly increases the costs of permitting aerospace, recycling, oil and gas, and other critical waste facilities by eliminating permit applicants' option to be charged a predictable flat permitting fee and instead giving the Department of Toxic Substances Control carte blanche to charge whatever fee it determines, notwithstanding well-recognized and self-acknowledged deficiencies in DTSC's current permitting program that have resulted in excessive delays in permit processing. Passed Assembly, June 16, 48-28. Senate concurrence in Assembly amendments pending.

#### **Increased Labor Costs**

• SB 3 (Leno; D-San Francisco)
Automatic Minimum Wage Increase:
Unfairly imposes a potential 50% increase in the minimum wage by 2022 (actually an 87% increase over an 8-year period when combined with the last increase just implemented in January 2016), and automatically adjusts minimum wage beyond 2018 according to national inflation, with no "offramps" to suspend the indexing if employers are struggling with other economic factors or costs. Passed Assembly, March 31, 48-26. Senate concurred in Assembly amendments, March 31, 26-12. Signed April 4—Chapter 4, Statutes of 2016.

• SB 1166 (Jackson; D-Santa Barbara) Imposes New Maternity and Paternity Leave Mandate: Unduly burdens and increases costs of small employers with as few as 10 employees, as well as large employers with 50 or more employees, by requiring 12 weeks of protected employee leave for maternity or paternity leave, and exposes all employers to the threat of costly litigation. Passed Senate, June 1, 22-14. Failed passage in Assembly Labor and Employment Committee, June 22.

### **Meritless Litigation**

• AB 2748 (Gatto; D-Glendale)

**Increases Environmental Litigation.** Eliminates incentives to settle lawsuits and instead exposes businesses to multiple rounds of litigation at great expense to the parties and the courts by creating statutory prohibitions on "release" clauses in settlements pertaining to "environmental disasters." Job killer tag removed due to June 2 amendments, which made clarifications and narrowed the bill to apply only to the Porter Ranch area gas leak or to contamination surrounding the Exide Technologies facility, but CalChamber remains opposed. Failed passage in Assembly before amendments, May 5, 30-32 (vote shown). Amended bill passed Assembly, June 2, 53-18. Passed Senate Environmental Quality Committee, June 29, 5-2

• SB 899 (Hueso; D-San Diego) Increased Frivolous Litigation: Drives up consumer costs and increases frivolous litigation similar to the disability access lawsuits in California, by prohibiting a retailer or grocery store from discriminating against a person on the basis of gender with the price of goods and subjecting them to a minimum \$4,000 of damages for each violation. Passed Senate, May 26, 22-12. Held in Assembly Judiciary Committee, June 28.

# Key to Using This Section

Y means voted for bill.

**N** means voted against bill.

- means not voting "aye" on a CalChamber-opposed bill.
- means absent.

## **Boldface type indicates votes in accord with CalChamber position.**

The last three columns are a tabulation of votes in accord with the CalChamber position, not in accord with the CalChamber and not voting or absent.



## Senate Vote Record on Job Killers

	Affordable Housing Barriers	SB 1150 Mortgage Successors	SB 1318 Water Requirements	Arbitration Discrimination	AB 2667 Consumer Contracts	Burdensome Environmental Regulation	SB 32 Emission Reductions*	SB 654 Haz Waste Permits*	<b>Economic Development Barriers</b>	AB 1611 Permit Processing	SB 839 Permit Processing	Increased Labor Costs	SB 3 Automatic Minimum Wage Hike	SB 1166 Maternity/Paternity Leave	Meritless Litigation	AB 2748 Release Clauses	SB 899 Goods Pricing	In Accord with CalChamber	Not in Accord with CalChamber	Not Voting or Absent
Allen, Ben (D)		Υ	Υ		_ <u>~</u>		Υ	Υ		Υ	J.		Υ	Υ		ë.	•	1	7	0
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Bates, Patricia (R)		N	N		sei		N	N		N	eп		N	N		Ē	•	8	0	0
Beall, Jim (D)		Υ	Υ		Assembly.		Υ	Υ		•	o S		Υ	Υ		Committee.	Υ	1	7	0
Berryhill, Tom (R)		•	N		⊑		N	N		N	amendments pending.			N_			N	7	0	1
Block, Marty (D)		Y	Y		passage		Y	Y		Y	<u>H</u>		Y	Y		Passed Senate Environmental Quality	Y	0	8	0
Cannella, Anthony (R)		N	N		ssa		N	N		N Y	pu		N	N Y		Žuŝ	N	8	0	0
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Fuller, Jean (R) Gaines, Ted (R)		N	N				N N	N		N N	์ ฮ		N	N N		nts	N	8	0 0	0
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Lara, Ricardo (D)		Υ	Υ				Υ	Υ		Υ	Senate o		Υ	Υ			Υ	0	8	0
Leno, Mark (D)		Υ	Υ				Υ	Υ		Υ	S		Υ	Υ			Υ	0	8	0
Leyva, Connie (D)		Y	Υ				Υ	Υ		Υ			Y	Υ			Υ	0	8	0
Liu, Carol (D)		Y	Y				Y	Y		Y			Y	Y			Υ	0	8	0
McGuire, Mike (D)		<u>Y</u>	Y				Y	Y		Y			<u>Y</u>	<u>Y</u>			Y	0	8	0
Mendoza, Tony (D)		•	Y				Y	Y Y		Y			Y	Y			Y Y	1	7	0
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Morrell, Mike (R)		N	N				N	N		N			N	N			N	8	0	0
Nguyen, Janet (R)		N	•				N	N		N			N	N			•	8	0	0
Nielsen, Jim (R)		N	N				•	N		N			N	N			N	8	Ö	0
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# Assembly Vote Record on Job Killers

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Achadjian, Katcho (R) Alejo, Luis (D) Allen, Travis (R) Arambula, Joaquin (D)	On Assembly Floor.	ommittee.		N Y N N		N • N **	active File.		s pending.	N Y N Y		N Y N **	ommittee.		N Y N	Committee.	5 1 5 2	0 4 0 1	0 0 0
Atkins, Toni (D) Baker, Catharine (R) Bigelow, Frank (R) Bloom, Richard (D) Bonilla, Susan (D)	On Assen	Held in Assembly Local Government Committee.		N N • Y		N N Y Y	Assembly Inactive		Assembly concurrence in Senate amendments	N N Y Y		Y N - Y Y Y	ailed passage in Assembly Labor and Employment Committee.		• N • Y		5 4 2 0	0 0 3 5 5	0 0 1 0 0
Bonta, Rob (D) Brough, William (R) Brown, Cheryl (D) Burke, Autumn (D) Calderon, Ian (D) Campos, Nora (D)		  mbly Local G		N N Y Y		N •			nce in Senate			N Y Y Y Y	Labor and E		Y N • Y	Held in Assembly Judiciary	0 4 3 2 1 3	0 2 3 4 2	0 1 0 0 0
Chang, Ling Ling (R) Chau, Ed (D) Chávez, Rocky (R) Chiu, David (D) Chu, Kansen (D)		Held in Asse		N Y N Y Y		N Y - Y Y			bly concurrer	N Y N Y Y		N Y N Y	in Assembly		N Y N Y	He	5 0 4 0	0 5 0 5 5	0 0 1 0 0
Cooley, Ken (D) Cooper, Jim (D) Dababneh, Matthew (D) Dahle, Brian (R) Daly, Tom (D)				N • Y N		N • Y N			Assem	Y		Y Y Y N	ailed passage		• Y		3 4 0 5 4	2 1 5 0	0 0 0 0
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Garcia, Cristina (D) Garcia, Eduardo (D) Gatto, Mike (D) Gipson, Mike (D) Gomez, Jimmy (D)				Y Y Y • Y		Y • Y • Y				Y Y Y Y		Y Y Y Y			• Y Y • Y		1 1 0 3 0	4 4 5 2 5	0 0 0 0
Gonzalez, Lorena (D) Gordon, Richard (D) Gray, Adam (D) Grove, Shannon (R) Hadley, David (R)				Y Y N N		Y  N  N  N				Y Y Y N		Y Y N —			Y Y N N		0 1 4 4 5	5 4 1 0	0 0 0 1

\*2015 vote \*\*Not in office yet



# Assembly Vote Record on Job Killers

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Harper, Matthew (R) Hernández, Roger (D) Holden, Chris (D) Irwin, Jacqui (D) Jones, Brian (R) Jones-Sawyer, Reginald (D) Kim, Young (R) Lackey, Tom (R) Levine, Marc (D) Linder, Eric (R) Lopez, Patty (D) Low, Evan (D) Maienschein, Brian (R) Mathis, Devon (R) Mayes, Chad (R) McCarty, Kevin (D) Medina, Jose (D) Melendez, Melissa (R) Mullin, Kevin (D) Nazarian, Adrin (D) Obernolte, Jay (R) O'Donnell, Patrick (D) Olsen, Kristin (R) Patterson, Jim (R) Quirk, Bill (D) Rendon, Anthony (D) Ridley-Thomas, Sebastian (D) Rodriguez, Freddie (D) Salas, Rudy (D) Santiago, Miguel (D) Steinorth, Marc (R) Stone, Mark (D) Thurmond, Tony (D) Ting, Phillip (D) Wagner, Donald (R) Waldron, Marie (R)		Oli Asseriibily Pidor.	Held in Assembly Local Government Committee.		N		N	Assembly Inactive File. S		Assembly concurrence in Senate amendments pending.	N			Failed passage in Assembly Labor and Employment Committee.		N	Held in Assembly Judiciary Committee.	4 1 0 4 5 0 5 5 1 5 0 0 0 0 5 5 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	03510500405305502005553050	
Waldron, Marie (R) Weber, Shirley (D) Wilk, Scott (R) Williams, Das (D) Wood, Jim (D)					N Y N Y Y		N Y N Y				N Y N Y Y		N Y N Y			N N Y		5 1 5 0 1	0 4 0 5 4	0 0 0 0



LIVE WEBINAR | THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2016 | 10:00 - 11:30 AM PT

# Independent Contractor or Employee? Costly Mistakes Employers Make

Is your worker an independent contractor or employee? That's the multimillion-dollar question as class-action "misclassification" lawsuits continue to rise at the federal and state level.

Misclassification mistakes are costly, exposing employers to fines and severe penalties. Don't miss CalChamber's 90-minute webinar on September 15, when our employment laws experts will review independent contractor status, legal obligations and more.

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