

ALERT

No on Proposition 15

Days Remain to Stop Split Roll Tax Hike



With just days to go before the November 3 election, the No on Prop 15 campaign continues to highlight the problems the split roll initiative will cause for Californians and the economy.

Proposition 15 is a \$12.5 billion a year property tax increase—the largest in state history—that is riddled with [flaws](#) which will hurt all Californians. The California Chamber of Commerce **strongly opposes** the measure, which will also hurt the small businesses that employ half of all California employees.

Proponents have admitted that homeowners are next. Contrary to what its supporters claim, Proposition 15 will

not help local governments and schools recover from the COVID-19 induced economic crisis.

As of October 21, the website of the Secretary of State shows contributions to the Yes on Proposition 15 campaign totaling \$76.363 million, while No on Proposition 15 contributions totaled \$62.2 million.

Hurts Small Business

In brief videos viewable [online](#), small business owners, family farmers and other business representatives testify to the harm Proposition 15 will cause if passed:

- Increased rents because of the “triple net lease” under which many small businesses operate, making them responsible for paying property taxes, insurance and maintenance costs.

See Days Remain: Page 3

Consumer Privacy Act Did You Get a CCPA Notice of Violation from the Attorney General?



Did you receive a California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA) violation notice from the Attorney General?

If so, you are among the first recipients of enforcement

notices about [California's new privacy law](#). And because this law has never been enforced before, notices like the one you received are the first of their kind.

Help Other Businesses

As a business owner at the forefront of this, you're in a unique position to help other businesses predict and comply with CCPA. If you are willing to [answer just five questions in this one-minute survey](#), you can help California business owners just like you understand, predict, and prepare for these new enforcement actions.

We will not ask you for any identifying information, and your answers to just five basic questions about the CCPA notice of violation will go a long way to helping California businesses predict what's coming around the next corner.

Businesses across California must work together to make CCPA enforce-

See Did You Get a CCPA Notice: Page 4

CALCHAMBER NOVEMBER BALLOT POSITIONS

OPPOSE

Proposition 15
Split Roll Property Tax

Proposition 21
Expands Rent Control

Proposition 23
State Requirements for Kidney Dialysis Clinics

SUPPORT

Proposition 16
Diversity in Public Employment, Education

Proposition 20
Restricts Parole for Non-Violent Offenders

Proposition 22
Employment Classification Rules for App-Based Drivers



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Labor Law Corner

Impact of SB 1383 Expansion of Family Rights Act on Large Employers



Bianca Saad
Employment Law
Counsel/Subject
Matter Expert

We have more than 50 employees and are already covered by the California Family Rights Act (CFRA), so how will the CFRA expansions under SB 1383 affect us as a large business?

Under existing law, employers with 50 or more employees are subject to the CFRA and its federal equivalent, the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA).

When SB 1383 goes into effect on January 1, 2021, however, the CFRA will be widely expanded to cover all employers with 5 or more employees.

The new law also repeals the New Parent Leave Act (NPLA) as of January 1, 2021, which currently covers employers with 20 or more employees and provides leave for baby bonding.

Eligibility Requirements

Although SB 1383 has drastic implications for smaller employers not previously covered under CFRA, large employers should be aware of several changes.

For example, the eligibility requirements for an employee to take CFRA leave will be that the employee:

- has at least 12 months of service with the employer, and
- has at least 1,250 hours of service with the employer during the previous 12-month period.

Notably, the requirement that an employee work at a worksite where the employer employs 50 or more employees either at the worksite or within 75 miles of the worksite, has been eliminated.

This means that employees previously ineligible due to working at a small worksite and/or based on their location, may now be eligible for CFRA leave.

Family Member Categories

In addition, employees may take CFRA leave to care for additional categories of family members.

Specifically, in addition to taking leave to care for a child, parent, spouse or registered domestic partner with a serious health condition under existing law, an eligible employee also may take CFRA leave to care for grandparents, grandchildren, siblings, adult children and parents-in-law. These new categories of family members are not included in the FMLA.

Qualifying Military Exigency

Also, eligible employees may now take CFRA leave because of a qualifying

exigency related to the covered active duty or call to covered active duty of an employee's spouse, registered domestic partner, child or parent in the U.S. Armed Forces. This is also a qualifying reason under the FMLA.

Eliminated Provisions

For baby bonding leave under CFRA, the limitation on the amount of leave that parents may take to bond with a new child when both parents are employed by the same employer, has been eliminated.

Another elimination in the law is the "key employee" provision that previously allowed an employer to deny reinstatement under certain limited circumstances.

Leave Interactions

With the various CFRA expansions, there may be more instances in which an employee takes leave under CFRA without having FMLA leave run concurrently (at the same time).

For example, an employee could theoretically use 12 weeks of CFRA leave to care for a grandparent with a serious health condition (which is not a qualifying reason under FMLA), and then in the same 12-month period use another 12 weeks of FMLA leave due to their own serious health condition—for a total of 24 weeks of leave within a 12-month period.

This is just one example of how the CFRA and FMLA will interact differently under the new law.

Employers should familiarize themselves with the changes in the CFRA, update their family and medical leave policies to account for those changes (and the repeal of the NPLA), and pay close attention to the qualifying reasons when administering and tracking leave under CFRA and/or FMLA.

Column based on questions asked by callers on the Labor Law Helpline, 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.calchamber.com.

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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.

Send email address changes to alert@calchamber.com. Publisher: Allan Zaremborg. Executive Editor: Ann Amioka. Art Director: Neil Ishikawa. Capitol Correspondent: Sara Proffitt.

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Next Alert: November 6

The Workplace

Cal/OSHA Emergency COVID-19 Rules Coming in November



In **Episode 94** of The Workplace podcast, CalChamber Executive Vice President and General Counsel Erika Frank and CalCham-

ber policy advocate Robert Moutrie discuss the upcoming California Division of Occupational Safety and Health (Cal/OSHA) Board vote in November on pending emergency COVID-19 regulations and why the five-day public notice period given by the agency is problematic for employers.

Rushed Timeline

In November the Cal/OSHA Standards Board is expected to vote on emergency COVID-19 regulations ([Petition 583](#)) that will not be made public until five days before the Board vote, Moutrie tells Frank.

While the specifics of the regulations are not yet known, employers can expect them to be far reaching, affecting all workplaces that do not have to abide by the Aerosol Transmissible Diseases standards, he explains.

"If you don't know what that means, then it covers you is the answer," Moutrie says.

The most troubling part of this process is that the agency has stated that no advisory committee will be formed

before the vote, giving virtually no time for employers and stakeholders to submit comments on the drafted regulations, he points out.

The advisory committee is typically where employers and stakeholders speak with Cal/OSHA staff and submit input, such as policy mistakes and inaccuracies, Moutrie explains. This process gives Cal/OSHA staff input from the stakeholders who are going to be subject to the regulations.

For example, he says, when wildfire smoke emergency regulations were being developed, the CalChamber met with the advisory committee five times over the course of a couple months and submitted numerous letters. In the end, many of the changes the CalChamber suggested made it into the emergency regulations the Board adopted.

In the case of these emergency COVID-19 regulations, however, the text will be published only five days before the Board meets for a vote, which is not a lot of time to get changes made. Even if employers are able to submit their comment letters within those five days, the timeline is too limited for Cal/OSHA staff to process the letters and rewrite the regulations before the Board votes, Moutrie says.

"Whatever the staff drafts now, which we cannot see and is being drafted in a kind of black box, is what the Standards Board is going to vote on," he tells Frank.

Moreover, the regulations will have

a lot of momentum coming into the vote because everyone wants to address COVID-19-related issues.

Short Compliance Window

Although it is not known how onerous the regulations will be, Moutrie expects the window for compliance to be short—likely as little as two weeks from the date of the vote.

Moutrie points out that rushing the comment period is not necessary given that the Standards Board has already been citing employers over COVID-19 safety under the guidance documents that have been drafted over the last eight months. In doing so, the agency has shown that it already has the authority to enforce the guidance rules. So why, he asks, should the process of enacting the emergency COVID-19 regulations be rushed?

It is hoped that the regulations will correspond closely to what already is required in existing guidance and employers should already be in compliance, Moutrie tells Frank.

Still, "employers should be on their toes come November," he stresses.

Other Recent Podcast Episodes

- [When Employees Talk Politics at Work.](#)
 - [COVID-19: Moving Between Tiers.](#)
- Visit www.calchamber.com/theworkplace to listen or subscribe.

Days Remain to Stop Split Roll Tax Hike

From Page 1

• Increased fuel prices and energy costs.

• Increased prices from vendors.

Consumers will ultimately bear the burden of higher prices if Proposition 13 is adopted because businesses of all sizes operating on tight margins will be forced to pass along the increased costs.

Broad Coalition Opposes

In addition to the California Chamber of Commerce, the coalition leading the campaign against Proposition 13—Stop Higher Property Taxes and Save Prop 13—includes the California Taxpayers

Association, California Business Roundtable, Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association, California Business Properties Association and California State Conference of the NAACP.

Also part of the bipartisan coalition opposing Proposition 13 are more than 1,500 organizations, businesses, state and local elected officials, and individuals from throughout the state.

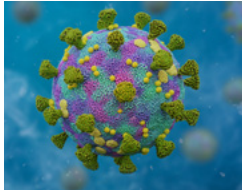
Help Defeat Prop. 13

The CalChamber is urging members to provide financial support to help spread the word to voters that the split

roll property tax hike will lead to a higher cost of living.

The CalChamber issues political action committee, CalBusPAC, may accept contributions in any amount, but the funds may not be earmarked. Defeat of the split roll measure is a high priority for CalBusPAC. Contributions may be sent to CalBusPAC (ID #761010), P.O. Box 1736, Sacramento, CA 95812-1736. Download and mail the [contribution form](#) from www.calchamber.com/calbuspac or contact the CalChamber Public Affairs Department, c/o linda.wallace@calchamber.com.

COVID-19 Update: Personal Care Services, Theme Parks, Sporting Events



This week, state public health officials released new guidance for the operation of theme parks and outdoor stadiums,

along with updates to the state's Blueprint for a Safer Economy.

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) news release on October 20 also noted that all personal care services would be allowed to operate indoors with modifications, even in Tier 1 (purple) counties where the COVID-19 virus is deemed to be widespread because there are more than 7 daily new cases per 100,000 people and the seven-day average of positive COVID-19 tests is greater than 8%.

Personal care services include esthetic, skin care, electrolysis, body art professionals, tattoo parlors, piercing shops and massage therapy.

State health officials describe California's statewide average COVID-19 case rate as encouraging but point to spikes in some parts of the state and elsewhere in the nation as cause for Californians to remain cautious and not let their guard down.

This week, Dr. Mark Ghaly, California Health and Human Services Agency secretary, cited forecasts that hospitalizations could increase 46% in a month. The forecast is based on an ensemble of external models, all available at <https://calcat.covid19.ca.gov/cacovidmodels/>.

County Shifts

The updated [Blueprint for a Safer Economy](#) shows that as of October 20:

- 12 of the 58 California counties remain in Tier 1 (purple/widespread).
- 23 are in Tier 2 (red/substantial virus presence—4–7 daily new cases per 100,000 people; 5%–8% positive tests; 5.3%–8% positive tests in the health equity quartile).

- 14 are in Tier 3 (orange/moderate virus presence—1–3.9 daily new cases per 100,000 people; 2%–4.9% positive tests; 2.2%–5.2% health equity quartile positive tests).

- 9 counties—including San Francisco—are in Tier 4 (yellow/minimal virus presence—less than 1 new daily case per 100,000 people; less than 2% positive tests; and less than 2.2% health equity quartile positive tests).

More information on the health equity requirement, which went into effect earlier this month, is available on the [Blueprint for a Safer Economy: Equity Focus page](#).

Theme Parks

The CDPH guidance calls for smaller theme parks (those with an overall capacity of fewer than 15,000) to resume limited operations if located in a Tier 3 (orange/moderate) county. Capacity is to be limited to 25% or 500 people, whichever is fewer. Ticket sales must be limited to people living in the same county as the theme park.

All theme parks may resume operation at 25% capacity when the county is in Tier 4 (yellow/minimal).

Among other requirements, the use of face coverings is mandated throughout the park in all settings unless the person is actively eating or drinking in a designated dining area.

Sporting Events

For live professional sporting events at outdoor stadiums and racetracks, the CDPH guidance states that outdoor operations may resume when the county is in Tier 3 (orange/moderate). Capacity is limited to 20%.

When the county moves to Tier 4 (yellow/minimal), capacity is limited to 25%.

Ticket sales must be limited to customers traveling within a 120-mile radius. The guidance applies only to professional sports and does not apply to youth or adult recreational, amateur, semi-pro, or collegiate sporting competitions.

Outdoor stadium operators are required to take steps to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission, including mandating the use of face coverings throughout the stadium unless the person is actively eating or drinking in an assigned seat.

For more information, visit the state's COVID-19 web page at www.covid19.ca.gov.

Did You Get a CCPA Notice of Violation from the Attorney General?

From Page 1

ment more transparent and predictable. Among the avalanche of issues that visited us this year, enforcement of the nuanced CCPA remains a looming concern for California businesses.

The CCPA went into effect on January 1, 2020 and required the Attorney General to begin enforcement on July 1, 2020. Of course, CCPA made no allowances for the pandemic-induced economic crisis that we continue to endure and gave no discretion to the Attorney General to delay or suspend enforcement.

Despite this, and in addition to the text of the CCPA, the Attorney General's regulations on CCPA went into effect on August 14, 2020 and became enforceable immediately.

Sounds like a lot, right? Well it is. And for any businesses trying to survive today, looking at this complex new regulatory landscape is daunting because it's unpredictable and it's going to cost money.

Predictability Needed

In reality, most people are not worried as much about the problems they can predict as the problems they can't predict. And with regard to CCPA, a little more predictability surrounding enforcement and compliance would go a long way to help California businesses feel confident about their privacy practices.

But CCPA enforcement actions are so difficult to predict because we just don't know enough about the issue. For example, because CCPA and its accompanying

regulations are new, there is no judicial precedent that businesses can look to for predictability and guidance on compliance.

Similarly, there is no historical record of enforcement actions from the Attorney General or guidance based on enforcement trends because, again, this is a brand-new law with an even newer set of regulations.

One-Minute Survey

For these reasons, if you received a CCPA notice of violation from the Attorney General's office, you are in the best position to help us all out by filling out the [short survey at https://advocacy.calchamber.com/policy/issues/california-consumer-privacy-act/ccpa-enforcement-survey/](https://advocacy.calchamber.com/policy/issues/california-consumer-privacy-act/ccpa-enforcement-survey/).

Staff Contact: Shueb Mohammed

CalChamber Vote Record: Major Bills 2020



This report for the second year of the 2019–2020 legislative session focuses on California legislators’ floor votes on California Chamber of Commerce priority bills.

This is the 46th vote record the CalChamber has compiled in response to numerous requests by member firms and local chambers of commerce that would like a gauge by which to measure the performance of their legislators.

To help readers assess legislators’ records, the charts group bills into 10 subject areas: banking and finance, California Environmental Quality Act, environmental regulation, health care, housing and land use, industrial safety and health, labor and employment, privacy and cybersecurity, product regulation, and taxation.

Partial Picture

No vote record can tell the entire story of a legislator’s attitude and actions on issues of importance to business. To fully evaluate your legislative representative, consult the legislative journals and examine your legislator’s votes in committee and on floor issues.

You can view these via links at www.calchambervotes.com.

Many anti-business bills were rejected by legislators in policy or fiscal committees, thus stopping proposals before they reached the floor for a vote. The vote record does not capture these votes.

Most bills in this report cover major business issues that are of concern to both small and large companies.

The CalChamber recognizes that there are many bills supported or opposed by business that are not included in this vote record and analysis.

Factors Considered

The CalChamber considers the following factors in selecting vote record bills:

- The bills and votes reflect legislators’ attitudes toward private enterprise, fiscal responsibility and the business climate.
- Each bill was a CalChamber priority in a particular field. Priority bills generally have appeared in the “Status Report” sections of *Alert*.
- The bills were voted upon by either the full Senate or Assembly. This year, the vote record covers 10 votes in the Senate and 11 votes in the Assembly.
- Unless otherwise noted, final floor votes are shown. Concurrence votes are considered final votes.

When ‘Not Voting’ Helps

Sometimes a legislator is unwilling to vote against a colleague, but is willing to support the CalChamber’s opposition to a bill. In such cases, a legislator may abstain from voting, which will hinder passage of a bill, just as a “no” vote does.

To recognize that not voting can aid the CalChamber’s opposition to a bill, the vote record includes the number of times legislators did not vote “aye” on a CalChamber-opposed bill in the total for the column listing actions “in accord with” the CalChamber’s position, if the legislator was not absent for the day.

Priority Bills

Banking and Finance

• **AB 2501 (Limón; D- Santa Barbara)** New Onerous Burdens on Lenders. Jeopardizes credit availability for consumer loans in future years. Imposes onerous obligations on financial lenders to carry home, mobile home, and auto loans for extended periods of time without receiving payments from borrowers. Failed passage in Assembly, June 15, 28-25. CalChamber Opposed/**Job Killer**.

California Environmental Quality Act

• **AB 2323 (Friedman; D-Glendale)** Streamlines CEQA for Housing.

Streamlines the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in order to promote more “climate-friendly” residential housing in California by allowing certain transit priority projects (TPP) to be eligible for CEQA’s existing streamlining provisions, and would allow certain infill, affordable and agricultural employee housing projects to utilize CEQA streamlining provisions provided they meet strict environmental criteria. Passed Assembly, June 8, 72-0. Held in Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File. CalChamber Supported.

Environmental Regulation

• **AB 345 (Muratsuchi; D-Torrance)**

Threatens Oil and Gas Development Operations. Threatens to eliminate thousands of high-paying California jobs and force California to import even more foreign oil by politicizing and undermining the California Geologic Energy Management (CalGEM) Division’s ongoing regulatory process regarding new requirements near oil and gas extraction sites by predisposing what setback requirements should be before the agency even begins its analysis. Passed Assembly January 27, 42-30. Failed passage in Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee. CalChamber Opposed/**Two Year Job Killer**.

Health Care

• **SB 977 (Monning; D-Carmel)**

Prevents Health Systems from Executing Prudent Business Decisions. Presumptively characterizes health system mergers, affiliations, sales or acquisitions as anticompetitive and gives the Attorney General unnecessary and overbroad power to reject this market activity. Passed Senate, June 26, 21-11. On Assembly Floor, August 24; not brought up for vote. CalChamber Opposed.

Housing and Land Use

• **SB 902 (Wiener; D-San Francisco)**

Promotes Housing. Promotes housing and provides maximum local authority to local governments to increase the baseline zoning for residential properties and bypass CEQA review if they rezone for small developments of up to 10 units.

See Next Page

CalChamber Vote Record: Major Bills 2019

From Previous Page

Passed Senate, June 22, 33-3. Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File. CalChamber Supported.

• **SB 1120 (Atkins; D-San Diego)**

Promotes Housing. Increases housing production in California and encourages more small-scale neighborhood development by creating a ministerial approval process for duplexes and other specified acts. Passed Senate, June 24, 39-0 (vote shown). Passed Assembly, August 31, 44-18. Senate concurrence in Assembly amendments pending at end of session. CalChamber Supported.

Industrial Safety and Health

• **AB 685 (Reyes; D-San**

Bernardino) Unclear and Unfair COVID-19 Notice. Gut and amend calls for notice within one business day after any potential exposure to COVID-19 in the workplace, but exact requirements on employers remain vague regarding who receives notice and what documents must be provided. Also, California Department of Public Health to publish COVID-19 cases in specific worksites, but fails to separate good and bad employers or identify which cases are due to social spread. Passed Senate, August 30, 26-9. Assembly concurred in Senate amendments, August 31, 52-17. Signed—Chapter 84. CalChamber Opposed.

Labor and Employment

• **AB 3216 (Kalra; D-San Jose)**

New COVID-19 Employment Leave Mandate. Imposes an onerous and stringent process for specific employers to return employees to the workforce, which will delay rehiring and subject employers to litigation for any alleged mistakes. Passed Senate, August 30, 26-12. Assembly concurred in Senate amendments, August 31, 46-16. Vetoed. CalChamber Opposed/**Job Killer**.

• **SB 1383 (Jackson; D-Santa**

Barbara) Employees: Time Off. Significantly burdens small employers by requiring small employers with only five employees to provide eligible employees with 12 weeks of manda-

tory family leave, which can be taken in increments of 1–2 hours, and threatens these small employers with costly litigation if they make any mistake in implementing this leave. Passed Senate, July 2, 21-12. Passed Assembly, August 31, 46-16. Signed—Chapter 86. CalChamber Opposed/**Job Killer**.

• **SB 973 (Jackson; D-Santa Barbara)**

Disclosure of Company Pay Data. Requires California employers to submit pay data to state agencies that could give the false impression of wage disparity where none may exist. Also creates confusion by allowing two different state agencies to enforce Equal Pay Act claims. Passed Assembly, August 26, 50-11. Senate concurred in Assembly amendments, August 30, 29-8. Signed—Chapter 363. CalChamber Opposed.

Privacy and Cybersecurity

• **AB 1281 (Chau; D-Monterey Park)**

California Consumer Privacy Act. Extends existing employee and business-to-business exemption under CCPA by one year, to January 1, 2022, contingent upon the failure of the California Privacy Rights Act of 2020 to pass in the November 2020 election. Passed Senate, August 28, 39-0. Assembly concurred in Senate amendments, August 30, 75-0. Signed—Chapter 268. CalChamber Supported.

Product Regulation

• **SB 54 (Allen; D-Santa Monica)**

Unprecedented Product Regulation in California. Before amendments, substantially increased the cost to manufacture and ship consumer products sold in California by providing CalRecycle with broad authority to develop and impose costly and unrealistic new mandates on manufacturers of all single-use packaging and certain single-use plastic consumer products under an unrealistic compliance time frame that failed to address California's lack of recycling and composting infrastructure. Job killer status removed due to September 6, 2019 amendments, but CalChamber still opposes. Failed passage in Assembly,

Key to This Section

Y means voted for bill.

N means voted against bill.

● means not voting.

— means absent.

Boldface type indicates votes in accord with CalChamber position.

Red columns are Job Killers.

September 1, 37-18. CalChamber Opposed Unless Amended/**Former Job Killer 2019**.

• **AB 1080 (Lorena Gonzalez; D-San Diego)**

Unprecedented Product Regulation in California. Before amendments, substantially increased the cost to manufacture and ship consumer products sold in California by providing CalRecycle with broad authority to develop and impose costly and unrealistic new mandates on manufacturers of all single-use packaging and certain single-use plastic consumer products under an unrealistic compliance time frame that failed to address California's lack of recycling and composting infrastructure. Job killer status removed due to September 6, 2019 amendments, but CalChamber still opposes. Passed Senate, August 30, 23-12. Not taken up in Assembly in final days of session. CalChamber Opposed Unless Amended/**Former Job Killer 2019**.

Taxation

• **SB 972 (Skinner; D-Berkeley)**

Corporate Shaming Tax Disclosure. Pierces the traditional shield of taxpayer confidentiality that has been respected by generations of political and government leaders by requiring the Franchise Tax Board to disclose all taxpayers' identities and tax credits if their gross receipts are \$5 billion or more. Passed Assembly, August 26, 42-20. Senate concurred in Assembly amendments, August 30, 28-11. Vetoed. CalChamber Opposed.

2020 Senate Vote Record

	Banking and Finance AB 2501 Burden on Lenders	California Environmental Quality Act AB 2323 CEQA Streamlining	Environmental Regulation AB 345 Oil and Gas Development	Health Care SB 977 Health System Decisions	Housing and Land Use SB 902 Rezoning	SB 1120 Duplex Approval	Industrial Safety and Health AB 685 COVID-19 Notice	Labor and Employment AB 3216 'Right to Recall' Mandate SB 1383 Family Leave Expansion	SB 973 Pay Data Disclosure	Privacy and Cybersecurity AB 1281 Privacy Act Exemptions	Product Regulation SB 54 Single-Use Packaging	AB 1080 Single-Use Packaging	Taxation SB 972 Tax Disclosure	In Accord with CalChamber	Not in Accord with CalChamber	Absent
Allen, Ben (D)	Failed passage in Assembly.	Failed passage in Assembly.	Failed passage in Assembly.	Y	•	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	2	8	0
Archuleta, Bob (D)				Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	3	7	0
Atkins, Toni (D)				Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	3	7	0
Bates, Patricia (R)				•	N	Y	N	N	•	Y	Y	N	N	8	1	1
Beall, Jim (D)				Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	3	7	0
Borgeas, Andreas (R)				N	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	10	0	0
Bradford, Steven (D)				•	Y	Y	Y	Y	•	Y	Y	Y	Y	5	5	0
Caballero, Anna (D)				Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	5	5	0
Chang, Ling Ling (R)				N	Y	Y	•	N	N	•	Y	•	N	10	0	0
Dahle, Brian (R)				N	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	10	0	0
Dodd, Bill (D)				Y	Y	Y	•	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	6	4	0
Durazo, Maria Elena (D)				Y	•	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	2	8	0
Galgiani, Cathleen (D)				•	Y	Y	Y	•	•	Y	Y	N	Y	7	3	0
Glazer, Steve (D)				N	Y	Y	•	N	N	Y	Y	•	N	9	1	0
Gonzalez, Lena (D)				Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	3	7	0
Grove, Shannon (R)				N	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	10	0	0
Hertzberg, Bob (D)				Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	3	7	0
Hill, Jerry (D)				•	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	4	6	0
Hueso, Ben (D)				Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	3	7	0
Hurtado, Melissa (D)				•	Y	Y	•	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	7	3	0
Jackson, Hannah-Beth (D)				Y	•	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	2	8	0
Jones, Brian W. (R)				N	Y	Y	•	•	N	•	•	•	•	9	1	0
Leyva, Connie (D)				Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	3	7	0
McGuire, Mike (D)				•	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	4	6	0
Melendez, Melissa (R)*				N	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	9	1	0
Mitchell, Holly J. (D)				Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	3	7	0
Monning, Bill (D)				Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	3	7	0
Moorlach, John M. W. (R)				N	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	10	0	0
Morrell, Mike (R)				N	•	Y	N	N	•	Y	N	N	N	8	1	1
Nielsen, Jim (R)				N	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	10	0	0
Pan, Richard (D)				Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	•	Y	Y	4	6	0
Portantino, Anthony (D)				Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	3	7	0
Roth, Richard (D)				Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	•	Y	Y	Y	Y	4	6	0
Rubio, Susan (D)				•	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	•	Y	Y	5	5	0
Skinner, Nancy (D)				Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	3	7	0
Stern, Henry (D)				Y	Y	•	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	2	8	0
Umberg, Tom (D)				•	Y	Y	Y	Y	•	Y	Y	Y	Y	5	5	0
Wieckowski, Bob (D)				Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	3	7	0
Wiener, Scott (D)				Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	3	7	0
Wilk, Scott (R)				N	N	Y	N	N	•	•	Y	N	N	9	1	0

*Sworn into office May 18, 2020.

2020 Assembly Vote Record

	Banking and Finance AB 2501 Burden on Lenders	California Environmental Quality Act AB 2323 CEQA Streamlining Environmental Regulation AB 345 Oil and Gas Development	Health Care SB 977 Health System Decisions	Housing and Land Use SB 902 Rezoning	SB 1120 Duplex Approval	Industrial Safety and Health AB 685 COVID-19 Notice	Labor and Employment AB 3216 'Right to Recall' Mandate SB 1383 Family Leave Expansion	SB 973 Pay Data Disclosure	Privacy and Cybersecurity AB 1281 Privacy Act Exemptions	Product Regulation SB 54 Single-Use Packaging AB 1080 Single-Use Packaging	Taxation SB 972 Tax Disclosure	In Accord with CalChamber	Not in Accord with CalChamber	Absent
Aguiar-Curry, Cecilia (D)	•	•	Y	On Assembly Floor, August 24, 2020; not brought up for vote. Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File.	Y	Y	Y	•	Y	Y	Y	5	6	0
Arambula, Joaquin (D)	•	Y	N		Y	Y	•	Y	Y	Y	•	8	3	0
Bauer-Kahan, Rebecca (D)	•	Y	Y		N	Y	•	Y	Y	Y	•	5	6	0
Berman, Marc (D)	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	3	8	0
Bigelow, Frank (R)	N	Y	N		N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	10	1	0
Bloom, Richard (D)	Y	Y	Y		N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	2	9	0
Boerner Horvath, Tasha (D)	•	•	Y		N	Y	•	Y	Y	Y	•	4	7	0
Bonta, Rob (D)	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	3	8	0
Brough, Bill (R)	N	•	N		N	N	N	N	Y	•	N	9	2	0
Burke, Autumn (D)	N	Y	•		•	Y	Y	•	Y	•	Y	6	5	0
Calderon, Ian (D)	•	Y	Y		•	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	3	8	0
Carrillo, Wendy (D)	Y	Y	•		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	4	7	0
Cervantes, Sabrina (D)	•	Y	—		Y	Y	•	Y	Y	•	•	7	3	1
Chau, Ed (D)	Y	Y	Y		•	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	2	9	0
Chen, Phillip (R)	N	Y	N		Y	N	N	•	Y	N	N	11	0	0
Chiu, David (D)	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	3	8	0
Choi, Steven (R)	N	Y	N		•	N	N	•	Y	N	N	10	1	0
Chu, Kansen (D)	Y	Y	Y		•	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	2	9	0
Cooley, Ken (D)	N	Y	N		Y	•	•	N	Y	Y	Y	8	3	0
Cooper, Jim (D)	•	Y	N		Y	Y	•	•	Y	N	•	10	1	0
Cunningham, Jordan (R)	N	Y	N		Y	N	N	N	Y	•	N	11	0	0
Dahle, Megan (R)	N	Y	N		Y	N	N	N	Y	N	N	11	0	0
Daly, Tom (D)	N	Y	N		N	Y	•	•	Y	•	N	9	2	0
Diep, Tyler (R)	•	Y	N		•	N	Y	•	Y	•	—	7	2	2
Eggman, Susan Talamantes (D)	•	•	Y		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	8
Flora, Heath (R)	N	Y	N		Y	N	N	•	Y	N	N	11	0	0
Fong, Vince (R)	N	Y	N		Y	N	N	N	Y	N	N	11	0	0
Frazier, Jim (D)	•	Y	N		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	0	8
Friedman, Laura (D)	Y	Y	Y		N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	2	9	0
Gabriel, Jesse (D)	•	Y	Y		•	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	3	8	0
Gallagher, James (R)	N	Y	N		Y	N	N	•	Y	•	N	11	0	0
Garcia, Cristina (D)	•	•	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	•	Y	4	7	0
Garcia, Eduardo (D)	•	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	•	Y	5	6	0
Gipson, Mike (D)	•	Y	•		Y	Y	Y	•	Y	•	Y	7	4	0
Gloria, Todd (D)	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	3	8	0
Gonzalez, Lorena (D)	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	3	8	0
Gray, Adam (D)	N	Y	N		Y	•	•	N	•	Y	N	11	0	0
Grayson, Tim (D)	•	Y	N		Y	•	Y	•	•	Y	•	10	1	0
Holden, Chris (D)	Y	Y	Y		•	Y	Y	Y	Y	•	Y	3	8	0
Irwin, Jacqui (D)	•	Y	Y		•	Y	•	•	Y	•	•	7	4	0

2020 Assembly Vote Record

	Banking and Finance AB 2501 Burden on Lenders	California Environmental Quality Act AB 2323 CEQA Streamlining Environmental Regulation	AB 345 Oil and Gas Development	Health Care	SB 977 Health System Decisions	Housing and Land Use	SB 902 Rezoning	SB 1120 Duplex Approval	Industrial Safety and Health	AB 685 COVID-19 Notice	Labor and Employment	AB 3216 'Right to Recall' Mandate	SB 1383 Family Leave Expansion	SB 973 Pay Data Disclosure	Privacy and Cybersecurity	AB 1281 Privacy Act Exemptions	Product Regulation	SB 54 Single-Use Packaging	AB 1080 Single-Use Packaging	Taxation	SB 972 Tax Disclosure	In Accord with CalChamber	Not in Accord with CalChamber	Absent		
Jones-Sawyer, Reginald (D)	•	Y	Y		On Assembly Floor, August 24, 2020; not brought up for vote.		Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	4	7	0		
Kalra, Ash (D)	Y	Y	Y					Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	3	8	0
Kamlager, Sydney (D)	•	Y	Y					N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	3	8	0
Kiley, Kevin (R)	N	Y	N					Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	11	0	0
Lackey, Tom (R)	N	Y	N					N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	10	1	0
Levine, Marc (D)	Y	Y	Y					N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	2	9	0
Limón, Monique (D)	Y	Y	Y					•	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	2	9	0
Low, Evan (D)	•	Y	•					Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	•	Y	Y	Y	6	5	0
Maienschein, Brian (D)	•	Y	Y					N	Y	Y	Y	Y	•	Y	Y	Y	•	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	5	6	0
Mathis, Devon (R)	N	Y	N					•	N	N	•	N	•	N	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	10	1	0
Mayes, Chad (NPP)	N	Y	N		•	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	•	Y	•	Y	•	Y	N	10	1	0			
McCarty, Kevin (D)	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	3	8	0			
Medina, Jose (D)	•	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	5	6	0			
Mullin, Kevin (D)	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	3	8	0			
Muratsuchi, Al (D)	Y	—	Y		N	•	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	2	8	1			
Nazarian, Adrin (D)	Y	Y	Y		N	•	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	3	8	0			
Oberholte, Jay (R)	N	Y	N		N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	10	1	0			
O'Donnell, Patrick (D)	N	Y	N		N	Y	Y	Y	•	Y	Y	Y	Y	•	Y	Y	Y	Y	•	•	6	5	0			
Patterson, Jim (R)	N	Y	N		•	N	N	•	N	•	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	10	1	0			
Petrie-Norris, Cottie (D)	•	Y	Y		N	•	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	•	Y	•	N	N	7	4	0			
Quirk, Bill (D)	•	—	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	•	Y	•	Y	Y	4	6	1			
Quirk-Silva, Sharon (D)	N	Y	N		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	•	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	7	4	0			
Ramos, James C. (D)	N	Y	•		Y	Y	Y	Y	•	•	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	•	•	9	2	0			
Rendon, Anthony (D)	Y	Y	•		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	4	7	0			
Reyes, Eloise (D)	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	3	8	0			
Rivas, Luz (D)	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	3	8	0			
Rivas, Robert (D)	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	3	8	0			
Rodriguez, Freddie (D)	•	Y	•		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	•	•	•	•	7	4	0			
Rubio, Blanca (D)	•	Y	N		Y	Y	Y	Y	•	•	•	Y	Y	•	Y	N	N	N	•	•	10	1	0			
Salas, Rudy (D)	N	Y	N		Y	Y	Y	Y	•	•	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	9	2	0			
Santiago, Miguel (D)	Y	Y	Y		•	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	2	9	0			
Smith, Christy (D)	•	Y	Y		N	•	•	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	5	6	0			
Stone, Mark (D)	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	3	8	0			
Ting, Phil (D)	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	3	8	0			
Voepel, Randy (R)	N	Y	N		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	0	8			
Waldron, Marie (R)	N	Y	N		N	N	N	•	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	•	Y	•	N	N	10	1	0			
Weber, Shirley (D)	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	3	8	0			
Wicks, Buffy (D)	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	—	—	—	—	—	—	Y	Y	Y	—	—	2	6	3			
Wood, Jim (D)	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	•	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	4	7	0			

CalChamber Best Business Votes 2020

Legislators are listed in descending order according to how often they voted in accord with the California Chamber of Commerce position (first number) versus how often their votes were not in accord with the CalChamber position (second number) in 2020. Total votes may not match the vote record because the tally for absent is not included in this list. Votes when a legislator was absent are not included in calculating percentages.

80% or more with CalChamber	60%-79% with CalChamber	40%-59% with CalChamber	Less than 40% with CalChamber
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Senate

Borgeas, Andreas (R)	10-0
Chang, Ling Ling (R)	10-0
Dahle, Brian (R)	10-0
Grove, Shannon (R)	10-0
Moorlach, John M. W. (R)	10-0
Nielsen, Jim (R)	10-0
Glazer, Steve (D)	9-1
Jones, Brian W. (R)	9-1
Melendez, Melissa (R)*	9-1
Wilk, Scott (R)	9-1
Bates, Patricia (R)	8-1
Morrell, Mike (R)	8-1
Galgiani, Cathleen (D)	7-3
Hurtado, Melissa (D)	7-3
Dodd, Bill (D)	6-4
Bradford, Steven (D)	5-5
Caballero, Anna (D)	5-5
Rubio, Susan (D)	5-5
Umberg, Tom (D)	5-5
Hill, Jerry (D)	4-6
McGuire, Mike (D)	4-6
Pan, Richard (D)	4-6
Roth, Richard (D)	4-6
Archuleta, Bob (D)	3-7
Atkins, Toni (D)	3-7
Beall, Jim (D)	3-7
Gonzalez, Lena (D)	3-7
Hertzberg, Bob (D)	3-7
Hueso, Ben (D)	3-7
Leyva, Connie (D)	3-7
Mitchell, Holly (D)	3-7
Monning, Bill (D)	3-7
Portantino, Anthony (D)	3-7
Skinner, Nancy (D)	3-7
Wieckowski, Bob (D)	3-7
Wiener, Scott (D)	3-7
Allen, Ben (D)	2-8
Durazo, Maria Elena (D)	2-8
Jackson, Hannah-Beth	2-8
Stern, Henry (D)	2-8

Assembly

Chen, Phillip (R)	11-0
Cunningham, Jordan (R)	11-0
Dahle, Megan (R)	11-0
Flora, Heath (R)	11-0
Fong, Vince (R)	11-0
Gallagher, James (R)	11-0
Gray, Adam (D)	11-0
Kiley, Kevin (R)	11-0
Bigelow, Frank (R)	10-1
Choi, Steven (R)	10-1
Cooper, Jim (D)	10-1
Grayson, Tim (D)	10-1
Lackey, Tom (R)	10-1
Mathis, Devon (R)	10-1
Mayes, Chad (NPP)	10-1
Obernolte, Jay (R)	10-1
Patterson, Jim (R)	10-1
Rubio, Blanca (D)	10-1
Waldron, Marie (R)	10-1
Brough, Bill (R)	9-2
Daly, Tom (D)	9-2
Ramos, James C. (D)	9-2
Salas, Rudy (D)	9-2
Frazier, Jim (D)	3-0
Voepel, Randy (R)	3-0
Arambula, Joaquin (D)	8-3
Cooley, Ken (D)	8-3
Diep, Tyler (R)	7-2
Cervantes, Sabrina (D)	7-3
Gipson, Mike (D)	7-4
Irwin, Jacqui (D)	7-4
Petrie-Norris, Cottie (D)	7-4
Quirk-Silva, Sharon (D)	7-4
Rodriguez, Freddie (D)	7-4
Burke, Autumn (D)	6-5
Low, Evan (D)	6-5
O'Donnell, Patrick (D)	6-5

Aguiar-Curry, Cecilia (D)	5-6
Bauer-Kahan, Rebecca (D)	5-6
Garcia, Eduardo (D)	5-6
Maienschein, Brian (D)	5-6
Medina, Jose (D)	5-6
Smith, Christy (D)	5-6
Quirk, Bill (D)	4-6
Boerner Horvath, Tasha (D)	4-7
Carrillo, Wendy (D)	4-7
Garcia, Cristina (D)	4-7
Jones-Sawyer, Reginald (D)	4-7
Rendon, Anthony (D)	4-7
Wood, Jim (D)	4-7
Berman, Marc (D)	3-8
Bonta, Rob (D)	3-8
Calderon, Ian (D)	3-8
Chiu, David (D)	3-8
Gabriel, Jesse (D)	3-8
Gloria, Todd (D)	3-8
Gonzalez, Lorena (D)	3-8
Holden, Chris (D)	3-8
Kala, Ash (D)	3-8
Kamlager, Sydney (D)	3-8
McCarty, Kevin (D)	3-8
Mullin, Kevin (D)	3-8
Nazarian, Adrin (D)	3-8
Reyes, Eloise (D)	3-8
Rivas, Luz (D)	3-8
Rivas, Robert (D)	3-8
Stone, Mark (D)	3-8
Ting, Phil (D)	3-8
Weber, Shirley (D)	3-8
Wicks, Buffy (D)	2-6
Muratsuchi, Al (D)	2-8
Bloom, Richard (D)	2-9
Chau, Ed (D)	2-9
Chu, Kansen (D)	2-9
Friedman, Laura (D)	2-9
Levine, Marc (D)	2-9
Limón, Monique (D)	2-9
Santiago, Miguel (D)	2-9
Eggman, Susan Talamantes (D)	1-2

*Sworn into office May 18, 2020.

A View from Israel

Similarities Foster Bilateral Partnerships, Advances in Health, Agriculture, Water



The following answers to questions posed by the California Chamber

of Commerce are from Consul General Shlomi Kofman, Consulate General of Israel, Pacific Northwest Region.

Israel-California Relations

Please describe your thoughts on the unique relationship between Israel and California?

California and Israel have a truly unique relationship unlike any other. Despite some differences, there are a sea of similarities, which has served as the foundation of friendship, creating enormous bilateral contributions in fields such as agriculture, health care, business, security, water management, and many other fields.

Our strong bond between the Silicon Valley and “Silicon Wadi,” Israel’s tech ecosystem, is responsible for creating many innovative products and solutions. More than 100 California tech companies have based their R&D centers in Israel or acquired cutting-edge Israeli startups.

From Salesforce, to Nvidia, Apple, Cisco, Google, Facebook and many others, California companies are inspired by the unique Israeli talent which, in return, also brought many startup companies to California, generating hundreds of thousands of jobs in both economies. Between 2018 and 2019 alone, San Francisco Bay Area companies invested close to \$3 billion in Israeli tech companies.

Israeli technology was also harvested to combat the California water crisis, using Israeli water desalinization and treatment technology to help secure California’s precious water supply. Israeli tech also brought unique agriculture models and technology to support California.

This Israeli innovative spirit is not only embraced by the tech sector, but also by top California academic institutions

and Israeli universities, which conduct groundbreaking joint research in many fields to make the world a better place.

COVID-19 Impact on Israel

As countries all over the world feel the pandemic, what is the economic impact of COVID-19 on Israel?

Much like California and the United States, the COVID-19 outbreak has had tremendous consequences on the Israeli economy. At the onset of the outbreak,

outbreak will continue to be tremendous, but out of this pandemic, Israel’s innovative spirit is leading the world in developing new responses to the virus, including therapies, treatments, and technologies for tracking and tracing.

Scientists and physicians in leading universities from California and Israel are working together on providing better care for COVID-19 patients. Stanford Hospital and Rambam Hospital in Haifa have signed an agreement to advance scientific efforts together to work on new research and treatments for COVID outbreaks.

U.S.-Israel Trade Agreement

What does the U.S.-Israel Free Trade Agreement mean for Israel?

The U.S.-Israel Free Trade Agreement was the very first free trade agreement (FTA) that either country ever signed. It served as a model for the rest of the world to move forward with trade liberalization and significantly contributed to solidifying a greater economic framework between Israel and the U.S.

As a result of this agreement, two-way trade totaled nearly \$35.5 billion in 2018, according to the United States Trade Representative.

The United States is Israel’s largest trading partner, exporting to Israel \$13.7 billion in goods in 2018—a fivefold increase since the enactment of the agreement.

Israel is also the United States’ 23rd largest trading partner, importing from Israel \$21.8 billion in goods, representing a 900% increase since the agreement.

This progress could not have occurred without the benefits that the free trade agreement provided to each country.

Notwithstanding the tremendous importance of the U.S.-Israel Free Trade Agreement, it is not the only factor in this growing economic cooperation.

The United States and Israel established other bilateral institutions prior to the FTA to promote economic cooperation.

See Similarities Foster: Page 12



Consul General Shlomi Kofman, Consulate General of Israel, Pacific Northwest Region

Israel quickly went into lockdown and as a result had relatively low rates of infections, hospitalizations and deaths.

But this came at the expense of economic activity: businesses closed, travel stopped, and the economy seized temporarily. Once the outbreak was under control, certain sectors of the economy began to reopen and the economy began to revive; but, unfortunately, Israel witnessed a second surge in cases, prompting another lockdown and even more economic uncertainty.

The economic consequences of this

Similarities Foster Bilateral Partnerships in Health, Agriculture, Water

From Page 11

• The **Israel-U.S. Binational Industrial Research and Development Foundation** was established in 1977 to generate mutually beneficial cooperation in the private sector, which generated more than 280 joint successful projects between Israeli and California companies.

• The **U.S.-Israel Binational Agricultural Research and Development Fund** is a competitive funding program for mutually beneficial, mission-oriented, strategic and applied research of agricultural problems, jointly conducted by American and Israeli scientists. Most projects focus on increasing agricultural productivity, particularly in hot and dry climates like California, and emphasize plant and animal health, food quality and safety, and environmental issues.

• The **U.S.-Israel Binational Science Foundation** promotes scientific relations between the United States and Israel by supporting collaborative research projects in a wide range of basic and applied scientific fields for peaceful and nonprofit purposes.

Taking into account all these bilateral institutions and the FTA, it becomes clear that California and Israel have a strong

and secure trading and economic partnership based on mutually shared values. The Consulate General of Israel will

continue to strengthen those partnerships and serve as a focal point to foster the exchange between California and Israel.



U.S.-Israel Trade Forum

The California Chamber of Commerce is collaborating with the U.S.-Israel Business Council of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce in presenting the U.S.-Israel Virtual Trade Forum on October 26, 9 a.m.–10:30 a.m. (Pacific). The event

celebrates the 35th anniversary of the U.S.-Israel Free Trade Agreement and building the next generation of bilateral commerce.

To register, visit <https://events.uschamber.com/us-israel-trade-forum>.



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