

ALERT

CalChamber Releases Initial 2024 Job Killer List



The California Chamber of Commerce has released its initial 2024 job killer list which, to date, includes nine bills dealing with labor and employment,

taxation, unemployment insurance, environmental and health care issues. CalChamber expects several additions to the list in the coming weeks.

“These proposals would add significant costs and burdens to California’s small businesses, creating an even more challenging business climate in our state,” said CalChamber President and CEO Jennifer Barrera. “Lawmakers should carefully weigh the consequences these bills would have on California employers and businesses in their local communities. We are grateful that the Governor and legislative leadership have indicated that new taxes are off the table this year. This is particularly significant because two bills on this year’s job killer list propose tax increases to fund UI benefit hikes.”

The 2024 CalChamber Job Killer List includes the following bills:

Unemployment Insurance/New Taxes

- **SB 1434 (Durazo; D-Los Angeles) Huge Increases to Unemployment Insurance Taxes.** Increases UI taxes to fund UI benefit hikes of up to 55%, as well as providing for subsequent increases based on inflation. Also creates entirely new UI program to provide benefits to workers who do not qualify for traditional UI, to be funded by a new tax on California employers.

- **SB 1116 (Portantino; D-Burbank) Increased Unemployment Insurance**

Taxes to Subsidize Striking Workers.

SB 1116 will allow striking workers to claim UI benefits when they choose to strike. Because the UI Fund is paid for entirely by employers, SB 1116 will effectively add more debt onto California employers. Moreover, SB 1116 will effectively force employers to subsidize strikes at completely unrelated businesses because the UI Fund’s debt adds taxes for all employers, regardless of whether they’ve had a strike.

Labor and Employment

- **SB 1345 (Smallwood-Cuevas; D-Los Angeles) Prohibits Consideration of Conviction History in Employment.** Effectively prohibits most employers from considering conviction history of an applicant, existing employee, or contractor in employment or contracting decisions.

- **AB 2374 (Haney; D-San Francisco) Joint Liability for Businesses of All Sizes.** Imposes new statutory joint liability on business of any size that contracts for janitorial services if a contractor violates the Displaced Janitor Opportunity Act and places new mandates on those businesses that should be assigned to the contractor.

- **AB 2499 (Schiavo; D-Chatsworth) Leave Expansion.** Significantly expands uncapped leave related to crimes and lowers threshold of applicability to employers with just five employees.

- **AB 2751 (Haney; D-San Francisco) Prohibition on Employee Communications During Certain Hours.** Prohibits any employee working for an employer of any size from contacting another employee outside of their normal work hours except in very

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CalChamber-Sponsored Bill Prepares Future Workforce in AI Literacy



The California Chamber of Commerce is **sponsoring** a bill that would allow California to take a crucial first step forward in fostering an arti-

SUPPORT

ficial intelligence-literate population and future workforce by teaching artificial intelligence (AI) literacy in schools.

The bill, **AB 2876 (Berman; D-Palo Alto)**, passed the Assembly Education Committee on April 3 with unanimous support.

AB 2876’s author, Assemblymember Marc Berman, stressed that the bill will help prepare California’s students for the usage of AI in the workplace and in everyday life.

“AI has the potential to positively impact the way we live, but only if we know how to use it, and use it responsibly,” Berman said. “No matter their future profession, we must ensure that all students understand basic AI principles and applications, that they have the skills to recognize when AI is employed, and are aware of AI’s implications, limitations, and ethical considerations. AB 2876 will equip all of California’s students with the skills and training they need to thrive as AI becomes more mainstream.”

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*Labor Law Corner***How to Count Months with Company for State Family Rights Act Leave**

David Leporiere
Employment Law
Expert

I have a former seasonal employee who became a regular employee about 9 months ago and is asking for a leave of absence to have surgery. The company has 30 employees, and I know the California Family Rights Act (CFRA) applies to us. He has worked more than 1,250 hours in the 9 months since he returned, but he hasn't worked 12 months in a row for us yet. I want to make sure I'm doing everything correctly. Is my employee eligible for the CFRA leave?

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Yes, it does appear that this employee is eligible for CFRA leave provided he worked at least 3 months for the company (at some point in the past) before becoming a regular employee.

Here is the reasoning. As it seems you are aware, there is a two-part test to determine if an employee is eligible for leave under the CFRA: 12 months of employment, and 1,250 hours of work in the 12 months preceding the requested time off from work.

Eligible Employee

The California Code Regulations, at Title 2, Section 11087(g), states that an “eligible employee” is an employee “who has been employed for a total of at least 12 months (52 weeks) with the employer at any time prior to the commencement of a CFRA leave, and who has actually worked (within the meaning of the California Labor Code and Industrial Welfare Commission Wage Orders) for the employer at least 1,250 hours during the 12-month period immediately prior to the date the CFRA leave is to commence.”

The wording “at any time prior” to the leave is key to understanding the employee’s eligibility in this situation. In your question, you stated that the employee had previously been a seasonal employee

Eligibility Criterion

If during those times that the employee worked in a seasonal capacity, he worked more than a total of 3 months, then he has met the 12 months of employment requirement to be eligible for CFRA leave. The length of employment criterion for eligibility does not require a consecutive period of employment.

In fact, California law allows an employee to count all periods of employment in the 7 years preceding the requested time off in order to establish eligibility for the leave of absence.

In most cases, even with a prior period of employment, an employee must have been working for 8 or 9 months consecutively to reach the 1,250 hours of work in the 12 months prior to the requested leave, but the 12 months of employment counts all periods of employment with the employer, regardless of when that employment occurred.

Column based on questions asked by callers on the Labor Law Helpline, a service to California Chamber of Commerce preferred members and above. 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.

Labor and Employment

Leaves of Absence. CalChamber. April 11–12, May 30–31, Online. (800) 331-8877.

Navigating Reasonable Accommodations. CalChamber. April 18, Online. (800) 331-8877.

HR Boot Camp. CalChamber. May 2–3, Online. (800) 331-8877.

Completing Your Workplace Violence Prevention Program. CalChamber. May 16, Online. (800) 331-8877.

International Trade

The Madrid Energy Conference 2024. Institute of the Americas and IPD Latin America. April 9–11, Madrid, Spain. (858) 453-5560.

How AI Is Poised to Revolutionize Global Trade Compliance. Organization of

Women in International Trade, Northern California. April 10, San Jose.
Partnering for Prosperity: Canada-U.S. Economic Security. Consulate General of Canada, San Francisco, and CalChamber. April 17, Sacramento. xochitl.bartolome@calchamber.com.
California Pavilion at Hannover Messe. Governor’s Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz). April 22–26, Hannover, Germany. patricia.utterback@gobiz.ca.gov.
World Trade Week Southern California. Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce. May 1, Long Beach. cluna@lachamber.com.
Export Documentation & Logistics Webinar Series. U.S. Department of Commerce. May 6–9, May 14–15, May 21–23, May 28, Online.

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Strengthening Partnerships

CalChamber Engages with Regional Allies



Nick Ortiz

Over a couple of weeks in March, the team at the California Chamber of Commerce had the privilege of participating in our allies' events and advocacy days.

We look forward to these opportunities, and they not only offer our team a chance to provide updates and perspectives on issues and policy proposals, but they also allow us a chance to express our gratitude for the work our regional partners do all year long, working with us to create a stronger business environment.

These interactions underscore our commitment to amplifying the voices of businesses of all sizes and from all regions, and jointly advocating for policies that promote economic growth and prosperity statewide.

San Francisco

On March 14, Ben Golombek, CalChamber's executive vice president and chief of staff for policy, spoke at the San Francisco Chamber's annual Sacramento advocacy trip. Golombek's presentation provided attendees with a comprehensive overview of the legislative landscape, delving into pivotal issues

such as the state budget, the impact of primary elections on policy dynamics, and a preview of key legislative agendas.

The San Francisco Chamber, led by President and CEO Rodney Fong, is a crucial stakeholder and partner. Fong was instrumental in the launch of our Big City Chambers Coalition and was instrumental in efforts around last year's APEC Summit in the city.

Commentary By Nick Ortiz

Orange County

On March 18, Senior Policy Advocate Ashley Hoffman and I represented the CalChamber at the Orange County Business Council's (OCBC) Advocacy Summit. We provided updates on CalChamber's ongoing efforts with the Fix PAGA coalition, emphasizing the importance of reforming the Private Attorneys General Act to foster a fair and balanced legal environment for businesses.

OCBC, led by President and CEO Jeff Ball, is a key regional ally, and as Ashley and I noted in our comments, the Council is steadfast in not only quickly engaging with their elected officials, but most important in driving accountability. Their commitment to not just communicating positions before votes, but in having tough conversations following legislative actions is what makes the Council a force in statewide business advocacy.

Greater Conejo Valley

Finally, CalChamber President and CEO Jennifer Barrera delivered the keynote address at the Greater Conejo Valley Chamber's annual Economic Summit on March 20. Barrera's remarks included a recap and reflection on the previous legislative session, insights on the state's budget, and an exploration of key policy priorities for the business community in 2024.

Notably, Barrera underscored CalChamber's emphasis on nurturing the next generation of business and political leaders through initiatives like the Women's Leadership Council, reaffirming our dedication to fostering inclusivity and diversity within the business ecosystem.

In addition to Barrera's keynote, a fireside chat between Barrera and Greater Conejo Valley Chamber CEO Danielle Borja provided an interactive platform for dialogue, enabling participants to delve deeper into pressing issues and explore collaborative solutions. This exchange exemplifies the value of partnerships in driving meaningful conversations and advancing shared goals for economic prosperity.

Immense Value

At the CalChamber, we recognize the immense value of our partnerships with regional and local business allies and chambers of commerce. These collabo-

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CalChamber EVP and Policy Chief of Staff Ben Golombek (left) and San Francisco Chamber President and CEO Rodney Fong.



From left: Orange County Business Council President and CEO Jeff Ball, CalChamber Senior Policy Advocate Ashley Hoffman, Orange County Business Council Vice President of Government Affairs Amanda Walsh and CalChamber Vice President of Small Business Advocacy Nick Ortiz.



Greater Conejo Valley Chamber CEO Danielle Borja (left) and CalChamber President and CEO Jennifer Barrera.

Growing Coalition Backs Reform of State's Broken Private Attorneys General Act

Nonprofits, Disability Advocates, Small Businesses Join



There's a Better, Fairer Way for Workers

A broad and growing coalition of more than 120 organizations and businesses, including the California Chamber of Commerce, have joined the **Fix PAGA** coalition to reform California's lawsuit-first Private Attorneys General Act (PAGA), which is enriching lawyers at the expense of California workers, nonprofits, small businesses and employers.

"There is near universal consensus that PAGA is broken and not working for workers or employers," said Jennifer Barrera, CalChamber president and CEO. "We need sensible reforms to fix this broken system. Our coalition continues to have conversations with key stakeholders to find a better, fairer way for workers and employers."

The coalition, which includes nonprofits, community and disability advocates, large and small businesses, and others across California, is advocating for an end to the lawsuit-first class-action approach to resolving employee labor claims.

Expand Existing Processes

Instead, the coalition supports expanding existing Division of Labor Standards Enforcement (DLSE) processes that are proven to resolve employee claims faster and provide workers with more money. The DLSE has a dedicated funding source — paid by employers — to expand staff and resources to handle employee claims.

A recent report found that labor claims filed under PAGA take twice as long to resolve and provide workers only one-third of the compensation compared to employment claims reviewed by state regulators.

The report also found that since 2013 there have been nearly \$10 billion in PAGA court case awards, but due to significant attorney commissions, workers receive only a small portion of these awards. PAGA hurts virtually every industry and employer in California, including nonprofits, local governments, family-run businesses and others.

Threat to Nonprofits

"PAGA threatens the viability of our organization and thousands of other nonprofits throughout California that provide critical services," said Jordan Lindsey, executive director, The Arc of California, an organization dedicated to promoting and protecting the civil rights of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

"Many nonprofits operate on thin margins, often using state and federal funding. Organizations in our industry are having to use taxpayer dollars to fight off and settle lawsuits. This system is deeply flawed and broken and needs to be reformed."

The coalition is supporting the already-qualified PAGA reform ballot measure, which is eligible for the November 2024 ballot. At the same time, the coalition is open to a legislative solution to avoid the need for a costly ballot campaign.

Coalition Members

A partial list of coalition members is below. For more information and a longer list of organizations, visit <https://fixpaga.com/our-supporters/>.

Community & Disability Advocates:

- California Disability Services Association;
- California Community Living Network;
- The Arc of California.

Health:

- California Assisted Living Association;
- California Association of Health Facilities;
- Association of California Healthcare Districts;
- LeadingAge California.

Agriculture:

- Western Growers Association;
- Agricultural Council of California;
- California League of Food Producers.

Business:

- Coalition of Small and Disabled Veteran Businesses;
- Family Business Association;
- Multicultural Business Alliance;
- California Chamber of Commerce;
- California Hispanic Chambers of Commerce;
- CalAsian Chamber of Commerce.

Industry & Trade:

- California New Car Dealers Association;
- California Restaurant Association;
- California Retailers Association;
- California Travel Association;
- California Association of Licensed Security Agencies, Guards & Associates.

CalChamber Engages with Regional Allies

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rations not only amplify our collective voice but also enhance our capacity to advocate for policies that benefit businesses of all sizes across California.

If you're interested in having a

CalChamber speaker at your event or inviting CalChamber to participate in your upcoming advocacy trip, I encourage you to reach out to me. Together, we can continue to strengthen partnerships, drive meaningful change, and create a

more vibrant and resilient business environment for all.

Nick Ortiz is the vice president of small business advocacy at the California Chamber of Commerce.

European Parliament Members Visit CalChamber



Five members of the European Parliament visited the California Chamber of Commerce on March 21 under the auspices of the German Marshall Fund of the United States (GMF), a nonpartisan American public policy think tank that seeks to promote cooperation and understanding between North America and the European Union.

Topics of discussion for the luncheon meeting included artificial intelligence

and emerging technologies, data governance and privacy, platform governance, and technology diplomacy.

The European Parliament (EP) is one of the legislative bodies of the EU and one of its seven institutions. It adopts European legislation, following a proposal by the European Commission. The Parliament is composed of 705 members (MEPs) from the 27 member countries, which have a combined population of 448 million.

Founded in 1972 through a gift from the West German government on the 25th anniversary of the Marshall Plan,

the GMF contributes research and analysis on transatlantic and global issues; convenes policy and business leaders at international conferences; provides exchange opportunities for emerging American and European leaders; and supports initiatives that can strengthen democracies. GMF focuses on policy, leadership, and civil society. GMF is headquartered in Washington, D.C., and has offices in Berlin, Brussels, Ankara, Belgrade, Bucharest, Paris and Warsaw.

Staff Contact: Susanne T. Stirling



Guests included, from left: Astrid Ziebarth, Managing Deputy Director of the Berlin Office for the German Marshall Fund of the U.S.; Miapetra Kumpula-Natri, MEP of Finland; Dragoș Tudorache, MEP of Romania; Jennifer Barrera, President and CEO of CalChamber; Željana Zovko, MEP of Croatia; Gerrit Gerard de Graaf, Senior EU Envoy for Digital to the U.S.; Susanne Stirling, Vice President of International Affairs for CalChamber; Carla Hustedt, Director, Centre for Digital Society for the Mercator Foundation; Petar Vitanov, MEP of Bulgaria; and Brooke Tanner, Research Assistant for the German Marshall Fund of the U.S.



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Indoor Heat Rule Moves to Next Step After Unusual Cal/OSHA Board Vote



The proposed regulation to prevent heat illness in indoor workplaces awaits an uncertain

fate at the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) following a tempestuous meeting at which the Cal/OSHA Standards Board held a vote on the rule despite being specifically advised by the California Finance Department not to vote on the matter.

In the normal regulatory process, the OAL provides a largely cursory review of proposed regulations, verifying that they have met various procedural steps — such as preparing the proper paperwork and getting sign-off from necessary agencies. The indoor heat regulation, however, is going to be the rare case where OAL's review could be hugely consequential.

Prior to the vote on the indoor heat regulation, Cal/OSHA was advised by the Department of Finance that there were considerable financial concerns related to the state costs of the regulation — and therefore, Department of Finance would be unable to give a procedurally necessary sign-off on the regulation.

Now, with the Board having voted in favor of the regulation, the question will be: what does the OAL do next? Legally, OAL has up to 30 days to approve or reject the regulation that the Board adopted — and unless the Department of Finance changes course and provides sign-

off for the fiscal side, it seems likely OAL will reject the indoor heat regulation.

If that happens, then what the Standards Board or proponents do next remains unclear. The next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for April 18.

Background on Indoor Heat Regulation

The proposed indoor heat regulation sets requirements, with some exceptions, for most indoor work areas where the temperature reaches or exceeds 82 degrees Fahrenheit.

A California Chamber of Commerce-led coalition has submitted written comments and oral testimony at each step of the process. The coalition represents employers large and small across diverse industries and has recommended revisions to each draft of the proposed regulation to clarify employers' compliance obligations and better protect workers in indoor workplaces from the risk of heat illness.

In response to the latest draft rule (issued on December 22, 2023), the CalChamber coalition questioned the temperature threshold and proposed exemptions in the section of the rule about rarely used spaces (such as a storage shed where tools are located). The coalition also pointed to a potential conflict between the indoor heat rule and existing court interpretations of the outdoor heat regulation.

March 21 Hearing

Although all stakeholders had

expected the Standards Board to adopt the latest draft rule at the March 21 hearing, Board Chair Dave Thomas opened the meeting by announcing the vote would be postponed.

The reason, he said, was that the Department of Finance had expressed concern about the potential cost of the rule to the state and would not approve the required fiscal document.

The unexpected announcement led to angry protestors interrupting the meeting briefly and Board members complaining about being told not to vote.

After the vocal protestors were escorted out of the room, the meeting resumed and a few more members of the public were allowed to comment. Next came a spirited exchange between the Board and staff about why the Department of Finance was not approving the required statements about the rule's financial impact.

The Board chair then called for a vote on the rule and the Board approved the proposed rule with a unanimous vote.

Next Steps

OAL has up to 30 days to approve or reject the regulation that the Board adopted without the necessary financial impact statement.

The next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for April 18.

Staff Contact: Robert Moutrie

CalChamber-Sponsored Seminars/Trade Shows

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International Forum. CalChamber. May 8, Sacramento. intlevents@calchamber.com.

WCF Americas Summit. International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) World Chambers Federation. May 8–10, Bogotá, Colombia.

U.S.-Cuba Agriculture Business Conference. U.S. Agriculture Coalition for Cuba. May 12–16, Havana, Cuba. (773) 814-2493.

Annual Export Conference. National Association of District Export Councils. May 13–14, Washington, D.C.

Trade Winds – Europe. GO-Biz and U.S. Commercial Service. May 13–15, Istanbul, Turkey. Optional: May 9–10, Denmark or Romania; May 16–17, Poland or Italy. [Register interest. patricia.utterback@gobiz.ca.gov](mailto:patricia.utterback@gobiz.ca.gov).

Indo-Pacific Business Forum. U.S. Trade and Development Agency and Government of the Philippines. May

20, Livestream and Manila, Philippines. (703) 875-4357.

EXIM 2024 Annual Conference. Export-Import Bank of the United States. June 6–7, Washington, D.C. registrar@cmpinc.net.

Farnborough International Air Show: California Pavilion. GO-Biz. July 18–22, Farnborough, United Kingdom. patricia.utterback@gobiz.ca.gov.

CalChamber-Opposed AI Regulation Bill Passes Judiciary Committee



OPPOSE

developers passed the Senate Judiciary Committee this week.

The bill, **SB 1047 (Wiener; D-San Francisco)**, would enact the Safe and Secure Innovation for Frontier Artificial Intelligence Models Act to require frontier AI developers to make a positive safety determination before initiating training of a covered model, among other things.

Federal Issue

While the CalChamber agrees on the importance of ensuring the safe and responsible development of AI, the CalChamber argues that it is an issue that is appropriately being addressed at the federal level. The CalChamber is concerned that SB 1047 will add more confusion to the already-fragmenting AI regulatory landscape in the U.S.

In addition to potentially creating inconsistencies with federal regulations, SB 1047 demands compliance with various vague and impractical, if not technically infeasible, requirements for which developers will be subject to harsh penalties, including potential criminal liability.

Regulatory Uncertainty

The CalChamber opposes the proposal because it regulates AI technology as opposed to its high-risk applications, creates significant regulatory uncertainty and therefore high compli-

A California Chamber of Commerce-**opposed** bill that creates confusing and infeasible requirements for artificial intelligence (AI) technology

ance costs, and poses significant liability risks to developers for failing to foresee and block any conceivably harmful use of their models by others — all of which inevitably discourages economic and technological innovation.

In a letter sent to legislators, the CalChamber pointed out that by discouraging innovation and focusing almost exclusively on developer liability, SB 1047 does not better protect Californians. Instead, by hamstringing businesses from developing the very AI technologies that could protect them from dangerous models developed in territories beyond California's control, it risks making them *more* vulnerable.

Concerns

Below are some of the concerns the CalChamber outlines in the letter:

- **SB 1047 fails to account for the AI value chain, impeding open source.** The bill almost exclusively focuses on developer liability, failing to account for the AI value chain. Under SB 1047, developers must build full shutdown capabilities into their models and may be held liable for downstream uses over which they have no control, impeding their ability to open-source their models. Ultimately, the CalChamber argues, liability should rest with the user who intended to do harm, as opposed to automatically defaulting to the developer who could not foresee, let alone block, any and all conceivable uses of a model that might do harm.

- **SB 1047 sets unreasonable safety incident reporting requirements that are not only vague but deter open-source development.** Developers are required to report each AI safety incident upon learning of it, or learning facts that would lead to the reasonable belief that a safety incident occurred. However, what

is considered an “AI safety incident” is vague. Among other things, it includes a covered model “autonomously engaging in a sustained sequence of unsafe behavior other than at the request of a user” but fails to define what is considered “unsafe,” leaving developers to guess if they must report an incident. At the same time, “AI safety incident” covers a range of circumstances that are incompatible with open source because it would require monitoring of all downstream uses and applications.

- **SB 1047 establishes a new regulatory body with an ambiguous and ambitious purview.** The new “Frontier Model Division” within the Department of Technology would be responsible for a sweeping array of AI-related regulation, including developing novel safety tests and benchmarks, which could very well result in greater inconsistencies with federal rules.

- **SB 1047 imputes excessively harsh penalties, including potentially criminal liability and model deletion.** For instance, developers are required to submit certification of positive safety determinations to the new Frontier Model Division under penalty of perjury, yet the certainty required for that assessment is impracticable if not impossible to obtain. Potential civil penalties include model deletion (in the face of imminent risk or threat to public safety) and “an amount not exceeding 10% of the cost, excluding labor cost, to develop the covered model for a first violation and in an amount not exceeding 30% of the cost, excluding labor cost, to develop the covered model for any subsequent violation.” “Considering the significant resources to train covered models, this sum could amount to many millions,” the CalChamber said. **Staff Contact: Ronak Daylami**

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CalChamber Releases Initial 2024 Job Killer List

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narrow circumstances and would subject employer to costly litigation for any dispute as to whether the communication was permissible.

Consumer Products

- **SB 903 (Skinner; D-Berkeley)**

Bans All Uses of PFAS. Prohibits the use of PFAS in all commercial and consumer products by 2030 unless DTSC is petitioned and makes an affirmative determination that the PFAS in a particular product is an unavoidable use. Because of the breadth and scope of PFAS use,

including in aerospace, lithium ion batteries, medical devices, automotive and semiconductors, to name a few, the regulatory program established is unworkable and ultimately will lead to a ban on critically important products or otherwise make certain products less safe.

Environmental

- **ACA 16 (Bryan; D-Los Angeles)**

Environmental Rights. Has far-reaching negative consequences that would impair government operations, stunt development for new housing, infrastructure and clean energy project development and has

strong potential to destabilize California's economy.

Health Care

- **AB 2200 (Kalra; D-San Jose)**

Government-Run Health Care. Forces all Californians into a new untested state government health plan, with no ability to opt out while eliminating Medicare for California seniors and increasing taxes at least \$250 billion a year on workers, income, jobs, goods and services.

For more information on the 2024 Job Killer List, visit www.calchamber.com/jobkillers.

CalChamber-Sponsored Bill Prepares Future Workforce in AI Literacy

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AI Literacy

AB 2876 will ensure that all K-12 students receive instruction in AI literacy by directing the Instructional Quality Commission (IQC) to incorporate AI literacy content into the mathematics, science, and history-social science curriculum frameworks when those frameworks are revised next.

These materials will cover the knowledge, skills, and attitudes associated with how AI works, including its principles, concepts, and applications, as well as how to use artificial intelligence, includ-

ing its limitations, implications, and ethical considerations.

Amendments accepted in the committee require the IQC to consider adding media literacy and AI literacy standards the next time the State Board of Education adopts the instructional materials for the English language arts/English language development curriculum framework.

"Incorporating this information into existing curricula will dispel the stigma and mystique of the technology, not only helping students become more discerning and intentional users and consumers of AI, but also better positioning future generations of workers to succeed in an

AI-driven workforce and hopefully inspiring the next generation of computer scientists," said CalChamber Policy Advocate Ronak Daylami.

"If California is to successfully harness the tremendous promise of this technology, it is vital that it place greater emphasis and resources on preparing students and arming them with the foundational knowledge and skills necessary to identify, understand, and successfully utilize all kinds of AI that they may encounter in their future workplaces and in their daily lives," she said.

Staff Contact: Ronak Daylami



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