



 CALIFORNIA SENATE
REPUBLICANS

DRAFT: 2024 PRIORITIES TO FIX CALIFORNIA

*LOWER LIVING COSTS – TACKLE CRIME – ACT ON HOMELESSNESS –
INVEST IN STUDENTS*

LOWER LIVING COSTS

SB 1259 (Niello), California Environmental Quality Act: judicial review.

Makes changes to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), including:

- Streamlining CEQA for housing projects, public works projects or commercial projects.
- Limiting the courts to staying or delaying only the parts of a project found to be in violation of CEQA.
- Affirming that CEQA should not be used for non-environmental purposes and barring the court from approving any settlement agreement that includes non-environmental provisions.
- Allowing a defendant to file a motion in a CEQA lawsuit to compel the disclosure of information on contributors to the litigation.

SB 1326 (Jones), The Cost of Living Reduction Act.

Restores the fixed charge cap for residential electricity customers and removes the income-graduated requirement in developing a fixed charge.

SB 978 (Seyarto), State government: budget: state publications: format.

Requires the budget to be available on the Department of Finance (DOF) website in a machine-readable format, and requires the budget for each budget year to be posted and maintained on the DOF website for a period of at least 10 years.



TACKLE CRIME

SB 1414 (Grove), Not One More Child, Ending Human Trafficking.

Requires registration as a sexual offender for any person convicted of soliciting or agreeing to engage in an act of prostitution with a minor on or after January 1, 2025.

SB 1267 (Dahle), Victim Notification Rights.

Updates the current CDCR 1707 form to address an existing gap in the notification process to ensure that victims of crimes are provided with accurate and timely information regarding any changes in an offender's status or eligibility for early release.

SB 928 (Niello), Crimes: organized theft.

Extends indefinitely the penal code section (490.4) that defines the acts that can be charged as organized retail theft.

SB 1074 (Jones), Sexually violent predators.

Provides that the director of state hospitals is responsible for ensuring that public safety is the overriding consideration in the placement of sexually violent predators. Further requires the director to approve a potential placement prior to approval of any lease or rental agreement for the placement of a sexually violent predator.

SB 1219 (Seyarto), Crimes: prostitution.

Reestablishes the crime of loitering for the purpose of prostitution. Creates a new crime for individuals who operate a motor vehicle in a public place with the intent to solicit prostitution. Both of these crimes would be punishable as misdemeanors.

SB 1442 (Ochoa Bogh), Point-of-Care Tests for Fentanyl.

Authorizes the California Health and Human Services Agency (CHHSA) to enter into partnerships – through the CalRx Initiative – to develop, produce, purchase and distribute fentanyl tests approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

SB 1468 (Ochoa Bogh), Department of Consumer Affairs.

Educates and encourages providers to make use of the new federal Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) rule to allow practitioners to dispense a three-day supply of narcotic medication (Narcan) to start detoxification treatment or maintenance treatment for people who use opioids.



ACT ON HOMELESSNESS

SB 1011 (Jones), Encampments: penalties.

Prohibits a person from remaining, residing or placing personal property upon a street or sidewalk if a homeless shelter is available. Strictly prohibits these activities upon a street, sidewalk or other public property near elementary schools, open space and transit stops. Following written notice, at least 72 hours before commencement of any enforcement action, the violator may be charged with a misdemeanor or infraction.

SB 1083 (Nguyen), Department of Homelessness Prevention, Outreach, and Support.

Requires the CHHSA to convene a working group that includes representatives from all departments and agencies currently receiving funding relating to services for homeless individuals. Requires the working group to determine the best approach to creating a Department of Homelessness Prevention, Outreach and Support and to submit its findings and recommendations to the Legislature no later than January 1, 2028.

SB 1438 (Niello), Housing First: sober housing.

Would establish an exemption to the state's Housing First policy to allow homeless people or those at risk of becoming homeless who are enrolled in a state program providing housing or housing-related services to be evicted based upon their use of drugs or alcohol, unless there are children housed in the same location.



INVEST IN STUDENTS

SCA 9 & SB 1203 (Grove), Educational expenses: education flex accounts and special education flex accounts.

The California Flex Account Act of 2024. Establishes the mechanisms to allow a student's share of Proposition 98 funding to be used toward tuition and education expenses at an accredited private school of their choice.

SB 916 (Seyarto), Public postsecondary education: waiver of tuition and fees: veterans: extended education courses.

Bars public higher education campuses from charging tuition or fees to students enrolled in extended education courses that are being used to meet the requirements of an undergraduate degree program as long as they qualify for the College Fee Waiver for Veteran Dependents.

SB 1410 (Ochoa Bogh), Pupil Instruction: Curriculum Frameworks: Mathematics: Algebra.

Requires the State Board of Education, in adopting any revised mathematics curriculum framework, to include a requirement that 8th grade pupils be offered the opportunity to take an algebra course.

SB 1411 (Ochoa Bogh), Instructional Quality Commission: Additional Members.

Adds six public members to the Instructional Quality Commission, and requires the Intersegmental Committee of the Academic Senates to ensure that its appointments consist of two faculty subject matter experts each from the California Community Colleges, the California State University, and the University of California.

SB 1412 (Ochoa Bogh), Instructional Quality Commission: Qualifications: Prohibited Communications.

Codifies and expands existing regulations that prohibit certain communications between publishers and their representatives, and members of the Instructional Quality Commission (IQC), and certain people involved in the material and curriculum adoption processes for all K-12 grade levels, and explicitly states that publishers and their representatives may not serve on various IQC committees.

SB 1435 (Ochoa Bogh), Books and Other School Materials: Harmful Matter.

Requires local school boards to exclude materials from school libraries serving PK-8 pupils that contain harmful matter, as defined by Section 313 of the Penal Code.

SB 996 (Wilk), Transparent Sexual Education.

Requires school districts to publish sexual education and HIV prevention materials on their website before being presented to students. Additionally, local educational authorities (LEA) must hold a publicly noticed hearing to inform parents and guardians of procedures for how they can examine sexual education and HIV prevention materials used in school.