

California Policy Action Alert September 6, 2017

As the federal government dismantles the rights of workers, immigrants, and other marginalized communities, it is more important than ever for California to implement safeguards that protect our state's most vulnerable populations. **We must counter bigoted and reactionary policy trends with our alternative vision of safety, health, and justice for all.**

We are asking our partners to take action and stand in solidarity on a number of key pieces of legislation: SB 306 (Hertzberg), AB 450 (Chiu), SB 54 (De Leon), SB 258 (Lara), and AB 1008 (McCarty).



SB 306 (Hertzberg)

SB 306 provides workers with immediate relief when they are retaliated against for complaining about wage theft, health and safety hazards, or other employment conditions.

In cases where there is reasonable cause to believe unlawful retaliation occurred but the investigation is not yet complete, SB 306 gives the Labor Commissioner authority to go to court to obtain a temporary injunction, which can include an order that the employer reinstate the affected worker while the claims are investigated. SB 306 also expands the Commissioner's authority to investigate retaliation cases, provides her with authority to cite employers for unlawful retaliation, and increases penalties for employers who willfully break the law.

When workers fear retaliation for reporting wage theft or speaking out about improper actions by the employer, all workers suffer. The chilling effect of allowing such abuse to continue is immediate, harmful, and unconscionable. In addition, when workers are fearful of revealing employer misconduct, honest employers face a competitive disadvantage.

TAKE ACTION

As SB 306 nears the finish line we are asking supporters to call their Assembly Member and urge a YES vote. Easily find your representative using this [link](#).

Sample script: "My name is ____ and I support all workers' rights to a retaliation-free workplace. Vote yes on SB 306 because it will improve working conditions across California by bringing illegal activity to light and discouraging retaliation before it happens."

AB 450 (Chiu)

AB 450 requires that an immigration enforcement agent have a judicial warrant before entering a private business and have a subpoena before getting access to employee records. The bill would also prohibit an employer from re-verifying the employment eligibility of a current employee at a time or in a manner not required by specified federal law.

The bill is heading to the Senate Floor.

TAKE ACTION

Please call your Senator and urge them to vote YES on AB 450 by September 8. Easily find your representative using this [link](#).

SB 54 (De Leon)

SB 54 ends local law enforcement entanglement with ICE and is urgently necessary for ending mass detention and deportation of California's immigrant communities.

The bill would prohibit state and local law enforcement agencies, including school police and security departments, from engaging in immigration enforcement or using any state or local resources in carrying out enforcement activities.

It would also expand the TRUST Act by prohibiting the transfer of *any* individual into federal custody for deportation without a judicial warrant. Finally, the bill instructs the Attorney General to create model policies that limit immigration enforcement at sensitive locations such as schools, hospitals, clinics, and courthouses.

TAKE ACTION

The bill is currently on its way to the Assembly Floor, so your action is urgently needed. Urge Governor Brown to support a strong CA Values Act by contacting him at 916-445-2841 or @JerryBrownGov.

Sample script:

"My name is _____, and I am calling to ask Governor Brown to support the California Values Act, SB 54, in its most visionary form. We cannot use California's resources to help the Trump administration deport our community members. Will the Governor support the CA Values Act?"

Sample tweets:

.@JerryBrownGov, leave lasting legacy&support #CAValuesAct #SB54 in its most visionary form. Protect our immigrant comms! Cc:@NancyEMcFadden



.@JerryBrownGov, don't fall prey 2 @calsheriffs smear campaign against immigrants. Support a strong #CAValuesAct #SB54 Cc: @NancyEMcFadden

CA must join IL in fighting against Trump's anti-immigrant agenda. @JerryBrownGov, support strong #CAValuesAct #SB54 cc: @NancyEMcFadden

.@JerryBrownGov, u have power 2 protect our immigrant comms frm painful deportations! Support strong #CAValuesAct #SB54! Cc: @NancyEMcFadden

Keep up with the California Values Act by visiting this [website](#).

AB 1008 (McCarty)

By enacting AB 1008, California will join the growing number of states and localities where private employers are prohibited from inquiring into an applicant's record at the start of the hiring process. The bill would make it an unlawful employment practice for an employer to seek the disclosure of an applicant's conviction history until after extending the applicant a conditional offer of employment.

TAKE ACTION

Please call your Senator and urge them to vote YES on AB 1008 by September 8. Easily find your representative using this [link](#).

SB 258 (Lara)

SB 258 gives California consumers the right to know what's in cleaning products by requiring important information on the product label along with fuller ingredient disclosure on the product's website.

Companies must disclose all chemicals listed on 22 lists of hazardous chemicals identified by the CA Department of Toxic Substances Control and an EU list of fragrance allergens. Companies will be able to declare certain ingredients and mixtures as confidential business information (CBI), but chemicals that appear on any of these 22 hazard lists will NOT be eligible for CBI protection.



The bill requires, for the first time ever, disclosure of individual chemicals included under the umbrella term "fragrance," which is particularly important as the majority of cleaning products include fragrance mixtures.

TAKE ACTION

The bill is currently on its way to the Assembly Floor. Please call your Assembly Member and urge them to vote YES on SB 258 by September 8. Easily find your representative using this [link](#).

We especially need you to reach out to the following representatives if you are in their district:

Salas
Rodriguez
Ridley-Thomas
O'Donnell

Muratsuchi
Frazier
Gray
Daly

Cooper
Cooley
Caballero

WORKSAFE

Worksafe is a California-based nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting people from job-related hazards and empowering them to advocate for the right to a safe and healthy workplace. For more information visit www.worksafe.org or find us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).