



A Voice of Conscience at the Capitol

Friends Committee on Legislation of California (FCLCA) is a social justice advocacy organization guided by Quaker (Friends) values. Founded in 1952, this year we celebrate our 65th anniversary as we continue our work to make California a more compassionate, just and equitable place for all.

Our supporters include people of all faiths and backgrounds. We invite you to join us! Sign up for free action alerts at www.fclca.org; click on Action Center. To join as a contributing member, \$60, or low-income \$35, click on Donate.

How we make a difference

- **Lobbying for reform at the state capitol.**
 - FCLCA co-sponsors bills in coalition with other faith-based advocacy groups and organizations such as ACLU and Human Rights Watch. We intensively lobby the Legislature and governor to get the bills signed into law.
 - We take action on dozens of other bills every year. Our registered lobbyist meets with legislators and their staff members to advocate for FCLCA's positions and testifies for or against specific bills in committee hearings.
- **Giving people the tools to influence their legislators**
 - Our grassroots lobbying program alerts constituents like you to directly and easily contact legislators at the best time to support or oppose bills. (Register for our free Action Network at www.fclca.org.) We support constituents in coming to the Capitol or visiting their legislators through in-district visits.
- **Providing information and training for civic activism**
 - In election years, FCLCA publishes our very popular guide to ballot initiatives, which analyzes and makes recommendations on each ballot measure. The FCL Education Fund publishes a comprehensive guide for groups and individuals on how to lobby the California Legislature, with handy worksheets on effective meetings with your legislator. We also provide in-person trainings based on the guidebook.

Our work in 2017 to keep California moving forward

- In 2017, we weighed in on over 80 bills addressing criminal justice reform, economic justice, environmental justice and immigrant rights. Given the current national climate, it's never been more important to maintain our state as a beacon of progress.
- We co-sponsored Senate Bill 180, a sentencing reform bill that will be an historic step forward in dismantling the "War on Drugs." SB 180 was passed by the Legislature and signed by Gov. Brown!
- FCLCA is also playing a key role in organizing faith-based support for Senate Bill 54, which will help protect immigrant communities by limiting state and local cooperation with federal deportation efforts. SB 54 was passed by the Legislature and signed into law by Gov. Brown!
- In 2017, FCLCA activists statewide organized a record number of in-person meetings with their legislators on these issues. Online, 1,500 of our Action Network members sent over 6,000 messages to their legislators and the governor.

Recent Accomplishments

- Co-sponsored two successful bills that allow people who committed offenses as juveniles and were given life without parole or other extremely long prison sentences the opportunity to show rehabilitation and earn parole.
- Co-sponsored SB 1010 to equalize penalties for possessing cocaine base and powder cocaine, correcting a racial bias that meant much longer sentences for African-Americans.
- FCLCA joined in coalition with other interfaith organizations and with advocates for women's and children's rights in a successful two-year campaign to repeal the "Maximum Family Grant" rule that denied assistance to children born into families that were already receiving CalWORKs aid.

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Visit our website: www.fclca.org Click on ACTION CENTER for actions you can take.

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