



Your support made good things happen. Thank you.

An unprecedented state budget



#Health4All

**GOVERNOR NEWSOM SIGNS
MEDI-CAL INCLUSION FOR
CALIFORNIA'S UNDOCUMENTED
AGES 50+!**



Legislative year 2021 was a year of transformational investments in California’s people, particularly the state’s low-income populations hardest hit by the pandemic. Fueled by higher than usual revenues, the \$262.6B state budget became the arena to address longstanding inequities and, thanks to you, FCLCA was able to join in coalition with other advocacy organizations to win stimulus payments for immigrants locked out of federal benefits; “Free School Meals for All” - breakfast and lunch for all children in public school; eviction protection and tenant rental assistance for those affected by the pandemic;

expanded sick leave; protected wage replacement for paid family leave and state disability insurance; Medi-Cal inclusion for all income-eligible people age 50 and over regardless of immigration status. The final budget made historic investments in climate change mitigation, childcare, K-12 education, and efforts to reduce homelessness.



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IN CA!**

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Bills that make a difference



FCLCA lobbyists and activists weighed in on over 90 bills during 2021 - the first year of the two-year 2021-2022 legislative session - in all areas of FCLCA’s legislative priorities. Many bills made it through the legislative process to reach the governor’s desk, while some became two-year bills and will continue in the legislative process in 2022. Here is a sample of the bills we were able to advocate for because of your support.

Economic Justice

Gov. Newsom signed SB 62, which expands and strengthens enforcement of wage theft liability in the garment manufacturing industry, ensuring that retailers cannot use layers of contracting to avoid responsibility under the law. He also signs AB 1177, creating the basis for a BankCal program that would provide Californians with a zero-fee, zero-penalty public option for essential financial services.



Green Lobby Day – FCLCA legislative consultant Jim Lindburg leads legislative visits on key environmental bills

Environmental Justice and Climate Change

FCLCA advocated for and Gov. Newsom signed a package of “circular economy” bills, including AB 1276 to expand the plastic straws only upon request law to include other single-use food accessories and the Truth in Recycling Act to prohibit the use of the chasing arrows “recycling symbol” on products and packaging that are not recyclable. AB 1395 - legislation to codify the state’s goal to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions as soon as possible, but no later than 2045, and achieve and maintain net negative greenhouse gas emissions thereafter - became a two-year bill and will be taken up in 2022.

Policing and Criminal Justice Reform

Gov. Newsom signed two significant policing reform bills – SB 2 creates a statewide decertification process for law enforcement officers who are convicted of a felony or found guilty of serious misconduct and SB 16 expands the use-of-force category subject to disclosure under the California Public Records Act to include a complaint alleging unreasonable or excessive force. The governor signed important sentencing reform measures advocated for by FCLCA: AB 1540 which provides courts with needed guidance and ensures equitable due process when processing resentencing referrals and SB 81, requiring sentencing judges to give great weight to a defendant’s mitigating circumstances when determining whether to apply sentencing enhancements.

Two important bills became “two-year” bills: AB 256 - The California Racial Justice for All Act, making AB 2542 (which prohibits the state from seeking or obtaining a criminal conviction, or from imposing a sentence, based on race, ethnicity, or national origin) retroactive. SB 300 - The Sentencing Reform Act of 2021 -will return to judges the discretion to dismiss a special circumstance allegation if the judge determines that a sentence of 25 years-to-life is more appropriate and better serves the interest of justice.



Immigrant rights

Gov. Newsom signed into law AB 1140 - the Unaccompanied Immigrant Children Protections Act, which ensures that unaccompanied minors in federal custody who are held in state-licensed settings receive the same care and rights as other California children and AB 263, which requires private detention facilities to comply with all local and state public health orders and occupational safety and health regulations.

Grassroots Advocacy

Constituents who communicate directly with their legislators are critical to getting good legislation passed. Your support in 2021 allowed us to mobilize members of the FCLCA Action Network who sent over 3,400 messages to Assembly Members, Senators, and the governor on key issues in response to action alerts.

You made a difference! Read more at www.fclca.org