

# SWCLC Southwest California Legislative Council

## MEETING AGENDA Monday February 28, 2022

**Presiding: Erik McLeod, 2022 Chair**

**Legislative Consultant: Chris Collier, Rincon Strategies**

Call to Order, Roll Call & Introductions: 12:00pm

Chair Report

Approval of Minutes

Action

Jennings Imel, US Chamber of Commerce

Speaker

2022 Legislative Report #2

Action

1. AB 87/SB 113
2. AB 1761
3. Southern California Water Infrastructure Funding Requests for Fiscal Year 2022-2023
4. AB 1001
5. AB 257
6. AB 1748
7. AB 1845
8. Restaurant Revitalization Fund
9. NEM Policies
10. Leg Info Bills Indented
11. Coalition to Repeal the Death Tax
12. Coalition to Stop Dialysis Proposition
13. Gaming Ballot Measures

SWCLC Communications Discussion

Information

Chambers/Tribal/Legislative Reps Announcements

Information

Adjourn- Next Meeting 3/28

### **The Southwest California Legislative Council Thanks our Partners:**

Southwest Riverside County  
Association of Realtors  
Metropolitan Water District of  
Southern California  
Elsinore Valley MWD  
Western MWD  
CR&R Waste Services  
Abbot Vascular  
Temecula Valley Chamber of  
Commerce

Murrieta/Wildomar Chamber of  
Commerce  
Lake Elsinore Valley Chamber of  
Commerce  
Menifee Valley Chamber of  
Commerce  
Corona Chamber of Commerce  
Southwest Healthcare Systems  
Temecula Valley Hospital

Economic Development  
Coalition  
The Murrieta Temecula Group  
Southern California Edison  
The Gas Company  
California Apartment  
Association  
Western Municipal Water  
District

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## Southwest California Legislative Council 2022 Legislative Summary February 28, 2022

### Legislative Update Summary

The following bills that we opposed, AB 1192, AB 1400 and AB 854 all missed the recent deadline are expected to be dead for the remainder of the year. Below is a brief summary on each of the bills.

- **AB 1192** – Would have required employers to report data regarding wages, benefits, scheduling, and safety for their workforce, to report wage and hour data according to race, ethnicity, and gender, to identify the number of independent contractors it uses, etc.
- **AB 1400** - Would have penalized employers, eliminated individual choice, and resulted in hundreds of billions of dollars in new taxes on all Californians and California businesses by creating a new single-payer government-run, multibillion-dollar health care system.
- **AB 854** – The “Stay in Business Forever Act,” would have prohibited rental housing providers from using the Ellis Act to terminate tenancies and exit the rental market until all owners of the property have held their ownership interest for five-years or more. If rent control spreads to more communities, this law will impact you.

### Positions/Actions Taken

#### [AB 87 / SB 113 \(Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review\):](#) Economic relief: COVID-19 pandemic

- **Summary:** There was a California Emergency Relief fund created for the purpose of providing emergency relief to small businesses impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. AB 87 and SB 113 support the 2022-23 State Budget that restores the net operating loss deduction and business incentive tax credits that were originally suspended and capped in the 2020-21 budget.
- **Requested by:** Cal Chamber
- **Request:** Support
- **Platform Citation:** Taxation & Government Reform 8: Support state programs that secure tax credits for targeted work training programs.
- **Position Taken:** Support
- **Action Taken:** Participated in coalition letter
- **Status:** 2/3/22: Do pass, referred to committee on Business.

#### [AB 1761 \(Voepel\):](#) Employment: flexible work schedules.

- **Summary:** AB 1761 allows employee-selected flexible work schedules. California law currently does not allow an employee to work over 8 hours in one day without being paid overtime. This bill will allow employees to work four ten-hour workdays instead of five eight-hour work days. At the request of the employee, an employer would be able to

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implement a flexible work schedule that allows the employee to work up to ten hours in a day or 40 hours in a week, without the payment of overtime.

- **Requested by:** Cal Chamber
- **Request:** Support
- **Platform Citation:** Labor & Employment 8. Promote rules and regulations regarding employment status that protect workplace flexibility and protect public safety and consumer choice.
- **Position Taken:** Support
- **Action Taken:** Participated in coalition letter
- **Status:** Referred to Committee on Labor & Employment 2/10/22

## Support for Southern California Water Infrastructure Funding Requests for Fiscal Year 2022-2023

- **Summary:** The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan), have identified two Southern California priorities regarding water infrastructure funding. Southern California's Emergency Drought Projects and Regional Recycled Water Programs are two specific projects that need funding in order to mitigate drought issues in southern California.
- **Requested by:** Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
- **Request:** Participate in letter
- **Platform Citation:** Infrastructure Improvements 7. Review and evaluate policies that promote safe, clean, high quality, adequate and reliable water supplies supporting the needs of economic growth and quality of life in the Southwest California region.
- **Position Taken:** Participated in letter
- **Action Taken:** Participated in letter

## For Discussion

**[AB 1001 \(Garcia/Gardens\):](#)** Environment: mitigation measures for air and water quality impacts: environmental justice.

- **Summary:** AB 1001 specifically does two major things. It expands the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) to incorporate new, highly subjective, non-quantifiable and litigation-bait standards into CEQA to address historical discriminatory land use policies and limits local control by forcing all governments to follow a one-size fits all state level policy. Cal Chamber labeled this bill as a job killer.
- **Requested by:** Cal Chamber
- **Request:** Oppose
- **Platform Citation:** Environment 4: Monitor and support efforts to reform the CEQA, and/or other regulatory entities, that will reduce the regulatory and compliance burden to cities and businesses in Southwest California.
- **Position Taken:** Discuss
- **Action Taken:** Discuss
- **Status:** Pass, In Senate. Read first time. To Committee on rules for assignment.

## **AB 257 Oppose Coalition (Holden):** Food facilities and employment.

- **Summary:** "Stop the takeout takeover Coalition" regarding AB 257 which we opposed during last month's meeting.
- **Requested by:** Stop the takeout takeover
- **Request:** Join Coalition
- **Platform Citation:** Labor & Employment 2 Monitor and review alternatives to (1) any proposed state minimum wage increases and (2) any local or state living wage ordinances.
- **Position Taken:** Oppose
- **Action Taken:** Discuss
- **Status:** In Senate. Read first time. To Committee on rules for assignment. 2/1/22

## **AB 1748 (Seyarto):** Exempt surplus land: regional housing need.

- **Summary:** AB 1748 is an act to amend Section 54221 of the Government Code, relating to surplus land. The bill would change the definition of surplus land that is zoned for a density of up to 30 residential units and is owned by a city or county that demonstrates adequate progress in meeting its share of regional housing need in its annual report, or is designated as pro-housing by the department. The city of Murrieta worked with Assembly Member Seyarto on this bill.
- **Requested by:** City of Murrieta
- **Request:** Support
- **Platform Citation:** Pro-business leadership 5: Monitor land use, planning, housing and zoning issues that affect the Southwest California regional business community.
- **Position Taken:** Discuss
- **Action Taken:** Discuss
- **Status:** Referred to Committee on local government and Housing & Community Development 2/10/22

## **AB 1845 (Calderon):** Metropolitan Water District of Southern California: alternative project delivery methods.

- **Summary:** AB 1845 aims to assist severe drought conditions and climate change that have negatively impacted the imported water supplies of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. There needs to be an increase in local water supplies, including recycled water, and the construction of water infrastructure to more efficiently transport limited water supplies within the district's service area. The bill provides multiple options for district projects, including a planned regional recycled water project, designed to counteract the negative impacts of severe and ongoing drought and the continuing impacts of climate change on water supplies in southern California.
- **Requested by:** Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
- **Platform Citation:** Infrastructure Improvements 7. Review and evaluate policies that promote safe, clean, high quality, adequate and reliable water supplies supporting the needs of economic growth and quality of life in the Southwest California region.
- **Position Taken:** Discuss
- **Action Taken:** Discuss

- **Status:** Referred to Committee on local government and Water, Parks, & Wildlife

## Restaurant Revitalization Fund

- **Summary:** The US senate is planning to pass a government spending bill sometime next month and the California Restaurant Association is working to get the Restaurant Revitalization Fund replenished. The Restaurant Revitalization Fund previously helped many restaurants but did not have enough funds for 177,000 eligible restaurants. If the fund is replenished, it could save hundreds of thousands of jobs in the restaurant industry.
- **Requested by:** California Restaurant Association
- **Request:** Support and join coalition
- **Platform Citation:** Taxation and Government Reform 10: Support practical business accounting procedures at the state level when trying to balance the State Budget.
- **Position Taken:** Discuss
- **Action Taken:** Discuss

## **Net Energy Metering (NEM 3.0)**

- **Summary:** CPUC reconsidering Net Energy Metering policy, previous proposed decision postponed in early February. New proposed decision TBD.
- **Request:** Support
- **Platform Citation:** Environment 1. Support policies that recognize the importance of balancing environmental issues including green, solar and water programs and their impacts on the public and private sector.
- **Position Taken:** Discuss
- **Action Taken:** Discuss

## **Change Leg Info to have bills indented (Lee)**

- **Summary:** For bills published on <https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/> to be indented.
- **Requested by:** Assembly Member Alex Lee
- **Request:** Support
- **Platform Citation:** Change the bills published on Leg Info to be indented to make them easily readable and less confusing.
- **Position Taken:** Discuss
- **Action Taken:** Discuss

## **Coalition to Repeal the Death Tax**

- **Summary:** The coalition to repeal the death tax was created to remove the death tax that was brought back in 2020. Prop 19 was passed by voters in 2020 and it repealed props 58 and 193 which brought back the death tax for the first time in 35 years. Introducing the death tax upends the long-established law concerning the transfer of property between parents and their children.
- **Requested by:** Coalition to repeal the death tax

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- **Platform Citation:** Taxation & Government Reform 4: Review and evaluate state and local fee & tax increases and new fee & tax categories affecting the regional business community.
- **Request:** Oppose
- **Position Taken:** Discuss

## Coalition to Stop Dialysis Proposition

- **Summary:** The Coalition to Stop Dialysis Proposition is opposing the 2021 UHW measure, a new measure that is nearly identical to Prop 23 which was opposed in 2020. The measure would require that a physician, NP and PA are always on site. The coalition believes that the latest proposition will again jeopardize access to care, worsen our health care provider shortage and increase health care costs for all Californians just like Prop 23.
- **Requested by:** Coalition to stop dialysis proposition
- **Request:** Oppose
- **Platform Citation:** Opposed Prop 23 in 2020