

2023 State of Immigrant Rights in California

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Agenda

1. Sacramento State of Play
2. State Budget Wins for Immigrant Californians
3. Legislative Campaigns
 - Health for All
 - Food for All
 - Safety Net for All
 - REP for All
 - Additional immigrant rights legislation

Budget and Legislative Updates

- Governor signs **\$310 billion state budget** for FY 2023-2024
 - **\$225.9 billion in General Fund spending**
- **\$31.5 billion deficit** for FY 2023-24
 - Dept. of Finance expecting deficit until FY 2026-27
- First year of a two-year legislative session
 - **37 new Members** in the California Legislature
 - September 14: end of 2023 legislative session
 - October 14: deadline for Governor to sign or veto
 - December 4: Legislature convenes and new Chairs of policy committees
 - January 3, 2024: Legislature reconvenes for 2024 legislative session
 - January 10, 2024: Governor releases proposed state budget FY 24-25

Budget Wins for Immigrant Californians

- **\$1.4B - Health for All**
 - Maintains the commitment to expand full-scope Medi-Cal eligibility to undocumented immigrants ages 26 to 49 starting **January 1, 2024**.
- **\$150M - Shelter & services for people seeking humanitarian protection**
 - New funding to welcome individuals and families with dignity at the border and provide humanitarian support in San Diego, Imperial and Riverside counties.
- **\$75 million for immigration legal services**
 - Maintains \$45M for One California (One CA) immigration services funding
 - Maintains \$30M for additional immigration services programs
 - \$4.5M new pilot program for farmworkers involved in labor disputes
- **\$40M - Food for All**
 - Expansion of the California Food Assistance Program (CFAP) to income-eligible residents aged 55 and over, regardless of immigration status starting **October 2025**.

Health for All - AB 4 (Arambula)

520,000

#Health4All 

undocumented, uninsured Californians

are unjustly excluded from Covered California,
and currently **have no option for affordable
health coverage.**

Source: UCB-UCLA CalSIM version 3.51

- AB 4 seeks to establish a state marketplace parallel and equivalent to Covered California for undocumented people.
- The goal is to allow all Californians, regardless of immigration status, to purchase affordable health insurance.
- AB 4 is a **2-year bill** resuming in January 2024.

Food for All - SB 245 (Hurtado) / AB 311 (Santiago)



- Seeks to improve access to food benefits by removing the exclusion from the California Food Assistance Program (CFAP) solely due to immigration status.
- Food4All ensures all Californians have access to food benefits, regardless of their immigration status or age.
- The bills are **2-year bills** and will be heard in policy committees in 2024.
- Sign up to [join the Food4All campaign](#).

Safety Net for All - SB 227 (Durazo)

- SB 227 seeks to establish a state unemployment benefits program for the one million Californians who are excluded from regular unemployment insurance, solely due to their immigration status.
 - \$300 per week for 20 weeks
- Urgent needs of immigrant workers facing economic uncertainty and climate disasters.
- SB 227 was put on “hold” in the Assembly Appropriations Committee and will resume in 2024. Sign up to [join the Safety Net for All campaign](#).



Representation, Equity and Protections (REP) for All - AB 617 (Jones-Sawyer)



- REP4All (AB 617) protects immigrant Californians from the impacts of deportation by increasing access to legal services and representation.
 - Eliminates exclusions based on contact with the criminal legal system
 - Expands services - interpretation, social services, litigation costs, etc.
 - Establishes Advisory Committee
- REP4All is a **2-year bill** and will resume first week of January in the Asm. Judiciary Committee.

Protecting Californians from ICE



- **ICE out of California - AB 1306 (Carrillo): HOME Act**
 - Prohibits California's prison system, CDCR, from transferring individuals to ICE who are eligible for release under *certain* criminal legal reforms.
 - According to PRA requests, CDCR transferred **1,615 individuals** to ICE in 2022 after earning their release from state prison.
 - **Vetoed** by the Governor on September 22.

SB 852 (Rubio) - PROTECT Act



Photo by Brooke Anderson | @movementphotographer

- **SB 852 (Rubio) Prohibiting Rogue Officer Tricks and Ensuring Community Trust (PROTECT) Act**
 - Sponsored by ACLU-CA, this bill specifies that probation searches can only be conducted by probation officers or peace officers, and not I.C.E. **Signed into law by Governor Newsom.**
 - Prohibits ICE officers from relying on and exploiting a person's probation status when conducting home enforcement raids and arrests.
 - Tens of thousands of Californians have been targeted and arrested due to ICE lying to Californians and using "ruse tactics" to arrest people in their homes.

Ending Solitary Confinement in California

AB 280

The California Mandela Act



California Mandela Campaign

- **AB 280 (Holden) The CA Mandela Act**
 - Reduces and ends the use of solitary confinement in jails, prisons and ICE facilities.
 - Bill is a **2-year bill** in the California Assembly. Concurrence vote in 2024.
 - Bill is sponsored by Immigrant Defense Advocates, CCIJ, Disability Rights CA, Next Gen Policy, and coalition of survivors of solitary confinement

California Dream Resource Centers



- **AB 278 (Reyes) High Schools: Dream Resource Center Grant**
 - Sponsored by Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights (CHIRLA), this bill will establish a grant program to help more high schools set up Dream Resource Centers, to provide counseling on financial aid, immigration law, and other resources for immigrant students and their families across California.
- **Signed into law by Governor Newsom.**

California Domestic Worker Health & Safety

- Led by the California Domestic Worker Coalition (CDWC), SB 686 (Durazo) would have ended the exclusion of privately paid “household domestic service” employees from health and safety protections under California’s Occupational Safety and Health Act (Cal/OSHA).
- 300,000 domestic workers provide essential care to over 2 million households in California.
- **Vetoed** by Governor Newsom.



Thank you!



- **Questions?** Let's chat or schedule a call.
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