



Public Policy Update Leadership Training May 21, 2016



■ **AAUW CA Public Policy Committee**

Nancy Mahr, Public Policy Committee Co-Chair

Sue Miller, Public Policy Committee Co-Chair

Charmen Goehring

Kathi Harper

Karen Jackle

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Michele St. Claire

Shannon Smith-Crowley, Legislative Advocate



California Legislature

Assembly 80 Seats

Senate 40 Seats



Term Limits

- Change in term limits began with the 2013-2014 Legislative Session
- Three 2-year terms in Assembly
- Two 4-year terms in Senate
OR
- 12 years in any one house



Recent Changes Effect on Legislature

Since 2010-2012

- § Open Primary/Top Two candidates

- § Redistricting by independent commission

Budget passage by simple majority but any tax
or fee increases need 2/3 vote

- § 2/3 Democrats in Assembly BUT less than 2/3
in Senate due to SCANDAL

- § Massive state budget crisis easing but lots of
caution to loosen spending



2016 Legislative Year

2nd year of 2-year legislative session

More than 2,100 bills introduced,
some “2-year” bills from 2015



Importance of Coalitions

- California Coalition for Reproductive Freedom
- Commission on the Status of Women & Girls
- Office of Health Equity
- Ed Source
- Legislative Women's Caucus
- California Women Lead
- **Stronger California**



AAUW California Legislative Agenda for 2016

Women's Economic Agenda

Supporting bills that improve economic conditions for women, and are within the AAUW CA Public Policy Priorities



Pillars of the Women's Economic Agenda

- Fair Pay – HIGHEST PRIORITY and AAUW is EXPERT
- Family Friendly Workplace
- Increased Access to Child Care
- Job Opportunity and Skills



SPONSORED BILLS

- ACR 155 – Equal Pay Day
- AB 1676 – Equal Pay – Prior Salary
- AB 1890 – Equal Pay – State Contractors
- SB 1063 – Equal Pay – Including “Race & Ethnicity” in Fair Pay Act (SB 358 – Jackson, 2015)



Other bills

Focus on areas where AAUW is expert –

Title IX

STEM

To get more details go to bill tracking online –

Ø AAUW California Website

Ø Public Policy tab

Ø Bill Tracking

will be updated on a daily basis



AAUW California - Bill Status
Tuesday, April 08, 2014

Bill Author	Topic	Status	Location	Votes	Position
AB 1443 Skinner D	Harassment: unpaid interns.	4/1/2014 - In committee: Set, second hearing. Hearing canceled at the request of author.	3/20/2014 - A . JUD.	03/19/2014 ASM. L. & E. (Y:6 N:0 A:1) (P)	Support
AB 1516 Gonzalez D	Public social services: diapers.	4/1/2014 - Re-referred to Com. on HUM. S.	4/1/2014 - A . HUM. S.		Support
AB 1553 Yamada D	Long-term care insurance: premium basis.	4/2/2014 - In committee: Hearing postponed by committee.	2/6/2014 - A . INS.		Support
AB 2111 Ammiano D	Child development services: pregnant and parenting teens: Cal-SAFE.	4/3/2014 - Re-referred to Com. on ED.	4/3/2014 - A . ED.		Support
AB 2177 Brown D	Early voting.	4/2/2014 - From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 5. Noes 1.) (April 1). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.	4/2/2014 - A . APPR.	04/01/2014 ASM. E. & R. (Y:5 N:1 A:1) (P)	Support
AB 2307 Donnelly R	Common core academic content standards: school district opt out.	3/24/2014 - Re-referred to Com. on ED.	3/24/2014 - A . ED.		Oppose
AB 2340 Garcia D	State Department of Public Health: Office of Health Equity.	4/1/2014 - Re-referred to Com. on HEALTH.	4/1/2014 - A . HEALTH		Watch
AB 2350 Riosilla D	Postsecondary education: Equity in Higher Education & prevention of pregnancy	4/7/2014 - From committee chair, with author's amendments: Amend. and re-refer to Com. on	4/7/2014 - A . HIGHER ED.		Support



Want Updates on Bill Activity?

SUBSCRIBE

To “subscribe” to a bill go to www.leginfo.legislature.ca.gov
and on the bill page, go to “track bill”

Want to Help Get Our Bills Passed?

Sign up for Action Alerts on the national website, and you
will automatically be signed up for CA Alerts



Ongoing Issues – Important in the November 2016 Election!

- Gender Equity
 - § Title IX
 - § Discrimination
- State budget
- Education
- CalWORKS
- Social Services
- Reproductive Health
- Bullying
- Human Trafficking
- Election & Initiative Reform

Keep gender focus to advance equity for women!



YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!

- Your stories – priority on impact of how use of prior salary impacted your finances and your life
- Meet your legislator NOW, BEFORE you need their vote.
 - Meet in their DISTRICT office (generally legislators are in their local offices on Fridays or during summer break or recesses)
 - Introduce yourself and educate about AAUW's expertise
 - Let Shannon know of the meeting –
legislativeadvocate@aauw-ca.org



November Election is Critical!

- Women's issues are under attack, especially in national election.
- AAUW CA is non-partisan and cannot take positions on candidates in partisan elections, but we can educate voters on issues important to women!



What can your Branch do?

- Plan and Host a Voter Registration Drive – direct, personal, targeted contact. Work with C/U partners.
- Hold an Issue Forum on topic a topic important in your community. Register voters there.
- Host a Candidate Forum
- Host a Forum on Ballot Initiatives – League of Women Voters is good collaborator
- Work to Get out the Vote!



AAUW Guidelines for Election Activities

- AAUW is nonpartisan –see AAUW policies at www.aauwaction.org/voter-education/voter-guides
- *Cannot* expressly advocate the election or defeat of any clearly identified candidate or party.
- Focus on education about AAUW priority issues.
- AAUW CA will be taking positions on some Ballot Initiatives – these can be publicized in newsletters



- Candidate forums: invite all candidates. If branch is 501(c)(3) all candidates must attend or be represented in order to proceed with forum.
- 501(c)(4) branches can hold forum if all candidates for an office have been invited, even if only one candidate attends.
- Only 501(c)(4) branches can publish voter guides that include the position of candidates on specific issues – must include all candidates for that office.



Resources:

- www.aauwaction.org
- California Secretary of State office and website www.sos.ca.gov
- Your AAUW CA Public Policy Co-Chairs

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