New Proposed legislation for 2023

The first four bills are being promoted by the California Work and family Coalition.

Paid Sick and Safe Days - SB 616 (Gonzalez)

Current California state law requires employers to provide only 3 paid sick days per year. This is simply not enough. SB 616, introduced by Senator Lena Gonzalez, would require California employers to provide 7 paid sick and safe days per year. This is a commonsense change that would safeguard public health by ensuring that California workers do not have to choose between their health and paying the bills. The California Work & Family Coalition is a proud co-sponsor of this bill along with the California Labor Federation, California Teamsters Public Affairs Council, Legal Aid at Work, SEIU California and UFCW Western States Council.

**Passed Senate now in Assembly**

Paid Leave for Chosen Family - AB 518 (Wicks)

California made important progress in 2022 when the state legislature enacted AB 1041, which allows workers to use job-protected caregiving leave under the California Family Rights Act (CFRA) and paid sick leave to care for a member of their chosen or extended family. AB 518, authored by Assemblymember Buffy Wicks, will update the definition of “family member” in California’s Paid Family Leave Program (PFL) so that qualifying California workers will be able to receive PFL wage replacement benefits to care for a member of their chosen or extended family. The California Work & Family Coalition is a proud co-sponsor of this bill along with California Employment Lawyers Association, Equal Rights Advocates, and Legal Aid at Work with support from Coalition members across the state.

**Passed Assembly now in Senate**

Family Caregiver Anti-Discrimination Act - AB 524 (Wicks)

AB 524, introduced by Assemblymember Wicks: would protect California workers by ensuring that employers cannot discriminate against employees because of their status as a family caregiver. For example, an employer could not refuse to hire or promote their employee due to assumptions that they were unable to do their job because they were caring for an aging parent. The California Work & Family Coalition is a proud co-sponsor of this bill along with Coalition members California Employment Lawyers Association, Equal Rights Advocates, and Legal Aid at Work.

**Passed Assembly now in Senate**

RemovingBarriers to Paid Family leave- AB576 (Papan)

[AB 575](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202320240AB575), introduced by Assemblymember Papan, would address three important barriers to PFL that would increase California workers’ ability to access the program in times of need. AB 575 would remove the provision preventing more than one caregiver from receiving Paid Family Leave to care for the same family member at the same time. A seriously ill person may need care from more than one family member. In addition, AB 575 would make PFL available for child bonding when a guardian newly assumes responsibility for a child “in loco parentis.” Guardians often step into this role during extremely stressful life events, such as a parents’ hospitalization, a time when a guardian taking Paid Family Leave could have lifelong impacts for the child. AB 575 would also remove the provision of PFL that allows employers to require employees to use 2 weeks of accrued vacation before they can receive PFL benefits. Most California workers contribute to Paid Family Leave and should be able to access it when they need it.

**Passed Assembly now in Senate**

Other bills of note:

From State Senator Nancy Skinner

SB 59 – (Equity, Period). Would require all state owned buildings to provide free menstrual products

**Held in committee.**

SB 36- (Safe haven for abortion care). Would strengthen California safe haven law

**Held in committee.**

SB 343- (Child support Federal Rule Compliance). Would require State Department of Child services to conform to the federal rule changes of non-custodial parents.

**Passed Senate now in Assembly**

SB 348- (Healthy meals for kids) Would set guidelines for sugar limits added to school meals.

**Passed Senate now in Assembly**

SB 88- Safe rides to school-Drivers paid to transport students to meet health and safety standards.

**Passed Senate now in Assembly**

SB 242- HOPE accounts, saving accounts for children who lost a parent to COVID

**Passed Senate now in Assembly**

SB 377- Prevents law officials from buying illegal guns for their personal use. Federal Bureau ATF has warned about a growing trend of officers reselling illegal guns.

**Passed Senate now in Assembly**

SB 287 Social media accounts- Prevents social media from targeting youth.

**Ordered to inactive file**