



SENATOR
RICARDOLARA
LEGISLATIVE FACTSHEET

2016 Legislative Update

Senator Lara's legislative package focused on protecting vulnerable communities from pollution, building economic prosperity, advancing justice for all, working to get healthcare for undocumented Californians, and stopping animal abuse.

These are some of Senator Lara's legislative proposals that were signed into law:

Environmental Protections

Super Pollutant Reduction Act (Senate Bill 1383)

Created the nation's toughest restrictions on super pollutants including black carbon and methane, and established statewide reduction goals for dangerous emissions that accelerate climate change and impact public health.

Storm Water Infrastructure (Senate Bill 1328)

Provided much needed assistance for the increased deployment of storm water capture and ground water recharge facilities, while also prioritizing their development within disadvantaged communities.

The Lower Los Angeles River Recreation and Park District (Senate Bill 1374)

Created in statute the Lower Los Angeles River Recreation and Park District, to help facilitate the construction, improvement, and maintenance of parks and recreational facilities along the Lower Los Angeles River.

LGBT Equality

Equity in Higher Education Act (Senate Bill 1146)

Closed a loophole that allows private universities to discriminate against students and staff based on their gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation.

Investing in Jobs and Opportunity

Medical Professions Loans (Senate Bill 1139)

Removed barriers for undocumented students pursuing medical profession careers by ensuring that all students, regardless of their immigration status, have access to the state's scholarship and loan forgiveness programs for health professionals who work in medically underserved areas.

California Conservation Corps (Senate Bill 1227)

Requires the California Department of Veterans Affairs to assist veteran Conservation Corp participants find permanent employment.

Justice for All

Misdemeanor Sentences (Senate Bill 1242)

SB 1242 provides on a retroactive basis that all misdemeanors are punishable for no more than 364 days and ensure that legal residents are not deported due to minor discrepancies between state and federal law.

Private Treatment Facilities for Youth (Senate Bill 524)

Defines private residential facilities for youth and require them to obtain a license from the Department of Social Services to ensure youth's health and safety is protected.

Improving Access to Healthcare

Health4All (Senate Bill 10)

Expands access to healthcare and lowers costs for all Californians by allowing undocumented Californian adults to buy unsubsidized insurance coverage through the Covered California exchange.

Prescription Drug Abuse Patient Protections (Senate Bill 482)

Requires all prescribers to consult the CURES system before issuing Schedule II, III, and IV drugs. This will help prescribers make informed decisions about their patient's care and limit the number of people who doctor shop and over use prescription drugs.

Good Government and Civic Engagement

Los Angeles County Redistricting Commission (Senate Bill 958)

For a county with over ten million residents, which is greater than the population of forty one U.S. states, it is imperative that we have a fair and impartial process for drawing district boundaries. SB 958 creates an independent redistricting commission to draw seats for Los Angeles County Supervisors.

Central Basin Municipal Water District (Senate Bill 953)

SB 953 implemented recommendations made by the California State Auditor's report to improve transparency and accountability for the Central Basin Municipal Water District.

Transportation Safety

Charter Bus Safety (Senate Bill 247)

Required all charter buses to provide pre-trip safety briefings to ensure all passengers are aware of the emergency exits and procedures and required all future buses built to include emergency lighting, so that passengers can find exits quickly if they need to escape.

Preventing Animal Abuse

Elephant Protection (Senate Bill 1062)

Protected elephants by prohibiting the use of bullhooks and eliminated this fear-based training tool for elephants.