

CALIFORNIA LABOR FEDERATION LEGISLATIVE WRAP UP 2013

The 2013 legislative session has come to an end, and there are tremendous victories for working families to celebrate. Highlights from the legislative year include:

MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE

Governor Brown and the legislative leadership negotiated a 25% increase in the state's minimum wage, bringing California to the highest in the country.

- Increase from \$8 to \$9 an hour in July 2014; Increase from \$9 to \$10 an hour in January 2016.
- The Federation has long sought an increase for California's low-wage workers and this was a significant victory for Labor. **SIGNED**

ENTERPRISE ZONE REFORM

Labor set out to eliminate this wasteful tax giveaway that not only rewarded low-wage work but also stole union jobs. We built a coalition with business and worked together with the Governor's leadership to transform Enterprise Zones into a real job creation program that will help to rebuild our middle class, our economy and our state. **AB 93 AND SB 90 WERE SIGNED INTO LAW** and enact the following reforms: Hiring Credit: Repurpose the broken enterprise zone program to more effectively create good new jobs in areas of the state with the highest levels of unemployment and poverty. The credit includes strong labor including:

- Credits may only be claimed for new jobs, not for filling existing jobs.
- Credit may only be claimed for full-time jobs that pay at least \$12 an hour.
- Any employer that relocates within the state must give workers an offer of transfer at the same rate of compensation.
- Retention requirement of at least 3 years or the state may clawback the credit.
- Creates a public database of companies that claim the credit and number of jobs.
- Excludes retail, restaurants, temp agencies and strip clubs from the hiring credit.
- Manufacturing Equipment Sales Tax Exemption: Reinvests in manufacturing statewide, boosts California's competitiveness and stimulates a vital sector our state needs to rebuild the middle class.
- CA Competes: Creates the CA Competes Fund to provide tools to the state to attract and retain good jobs.

ELECTORAL REFORM

After defeating Proposition 32 on the 2012 ballot, the Federation sponsored legislation to ensure billionaires can't buy elections in California.

- **AB 857 (FONG)** requires that 10% of all signatures submitted to qualify statewide ballot measures be gathered by grassroots circulators. **VETOED**
We also supported legislation to bring more transparency to the electoral process.
- **-SB 594 (Hill)** requires transparency for "non-public funds" from taxpayer-financed non-profits used in campaigns and ensures that public dollars are not being diverted to political campaigns. (CPF bill) **SIGNED**
- **-AB 822 (Hall)** requires local measures affecting employee pension plans to be on the General Election ballot and contain an actuarial analysis of the measure in the voter handbook. (CPF bill) **VETOED**
- **-SB 311 (Padilla)** requires charter city elections to be placed on general election ballots to maximize voter participation. (SBCTC bill) **SIGNED**

AFFILIATE BILLS

- **-SB 7 (Steinberg/Cannella)** disqualifies cities that ban the prevailing wage from receiving state construction grants. (SBCTC bill) **SIGNED**
- **-SB 590 (De Leon)** requires local education agencies to set aside a portion of state or federal funds for professional development for classified employees. (CSEA bill) **SIGNED**
- **-SB 615 (Galgiani)** requires hospitals electing to receive tax-exempt conduit bond financing from a public agency to pay prevailing wage to construction workers. (SBCTC bill) **VETOED**
- **-AB 375 (Buchanan)** updates and streamlines the teacher dismissal process by establishing clear and timely procedures for dismissal that reinforce the district's responsibility while protecting teachers' rights. (CTA bill) **VETOED**
- **-AB 537 (Bonta)** makes changes to the Meyers-Milias-Brown Act (MMBA) governing impasse procedures for local agencies and employee unions. (AFSCME, SEIU, CPF bill) **SIGNED**
- **AB 566 (Wieckowski)** requires rigorous performance and other standards are met before trial court services can be contracted out by the state. (SEIU, AFSCME bill) **VETOED**
- **-AB 1140 (Daly)** ensures the most recent prevailing wage determination applies on its effective date for all projects regardless of the bid date. (SBCTC bill) **VETOED**

- AB 1217 (Lowenthal) creates a regulatory structure for private homecare to better protect consumers. (SEIU bill) **SIGNED**
- -AB 1222 (Bloom) protects the state's federal transit funding by exempting from PEPRAs transit workers whose collective bargaining rights are subject to federal requirements. (Transit unions) **SIGNED**
- AB 1336 (Frazier) assists the Labor Agency to combat the underground economy and the failure to pay prevailing wage. (SBCTC bill) **SIGNED**
- -AB 1373 (Perez) extends the statute of limitations for dependents of public safety officers to file a workers' compensation claim for death benefits. (CPF bill) **VETOED**