

Office of Senator Toni G. Atkins - State Report for May 2022

Reproductive Freedom

- Monday, May 2nd – Senate President Pro Tempore Atkins along with Assembly Speaker Rendon and Governor Newsom announced that an amendment will be proposed to enshrine reproductive rights, including and specifically abortion, in our state constitution following a recent majority draft Supreme Court opinion overturning the long-standing precedent set by Roe v. Wade.
- This constitutional amendment will need to pass with two-thirds majorities in the Assembly and Senate before moving onto the voters, where it will need to receive a simple majority in order to be successfully ratified.
- The California Future of Abortion Council is advocating for a legislative package focusing on reproductive freedom to be signed into law this year which includes Senator Atkins' SB 1375. SB 1375 would help address the shortage of health care professionals projected for California, and would widen access and affordability to abortion services by increasing the number of nurse practitioners able to provide critically-needed care, especially for marginalized and lower-income communities.

Senate "Putting Wealth to Work" Budget Proposal

- Thursday, April 28th – Senate President Pro Tempore Atkins and Senator Nancy Skinner announced the California State Senate's "Putting Wealth to Work" proposal for the 2022-2023 Budget, which would continue to prioritize a more equitable economy to benefit struggling and middle-class families and build historic levels of reserves.
- Key features include:
 - Bolstering California's budget reserves to \$43 billion to help maintain California's ongoing financial stability during economic downturns. These reserves are currently standing at over \$21 billion.
 - \$18 billion towards a climate package which includes heavy investments in infrastructure.
 - \$7.5 billion in state and federal funds to build a resilient water system.
 - \$6.6 billion over five years to build on Governor's wildfire proposals.
 - \$3.3 billion to address sea level rise. This includes boosting funding for Senator Atkins' SB 1, which establishes a grant program for local governments to fund projects that combat sea level rise.
 - \$5 billion base increase in K-12 education, growing to \$10 billion by 2024-25.
 - \$1 billion with allocations of \$1 billion per year for the remainder of a 10-year period towards the California Dream For All Program. This program would establish a new revolving fund for first time homebuyers to partner with the state and purchase homes with low to no down payment and 17 percent reduced cost.

- \$8 billion allocated to the Better For Families Tax Rebate, which would mitigate impacts of high energy costs and other goods.
- \$3 billion over three years towards programs for eliminating homelessness. This builds upon last year's major \$12 billion two-year investment with funding for Project Homekey, an Encampment Resolution Funding Program, and increased state support for local programs.
- The final Budget will need to be negotiated with the Assembly and the Governor.
- More information can be found here:
[https://sbud.senate.ca.gov/sites/sbud.senate.ca.gov/files/Putting Wealth to Work Senate Budget Plan.pdf](https://sbud.senate.ca.gov/sites/sbud.senate.ca.gov/files/Putting_Wealth_to_Work_Senate_Budget_Plan.pdf)

New Bill Announcement – SB 1020: The Clean Energy, Jobs, and Affordability Act of 2022

- Senate President Pro Tem Toni Atkins, Senator John Laird, Senator Anna Caballero, and Senator María Elena Durazo authored this legislation after months of work to determining methods to enhance the state's ability to meet the challenges of climate change, adaptation, and resiliency through an equitable lens.
- Major provisions of this bill:
 - Adds a 90 percent zero carbon electric sector target for 2035 and a 95 percent target by 2040.
 - California's current SB 100 framework established a 100 percent clean energy goal by 2045.
 - Creates the Climate and Equity Trust Fund to ensure the integrity of all funds deposited into the account.
 - The source of trust funds may be from the federal government, the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF), state legislative appropriations, mitigation fees, noncompliance penalties assessed by the California Energy Commission (CEC)/CPUC/California Air Resources Board (CARB) and any other sources identified by the Legislature.
 - Trust funds could be used for costs included in retail electricity rates, including: public purpose programs (including energy efficiency and customer discount programs), decarbonization programs, transportation and building electrification initiatives, wildfire mitigation costs, and energy resources subsidies.
 - Requires all state agencies to transition to 100 percent zero carbon electricity to serve their own needs by 2030.
 - Coordinates State Agencies to support planning efforts.

For any questions, feel free to contact me at: Cole.Reed@sen.ca.gov

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