

Pacific Yearly Meeting Friends Committee on Legislation of California Representative Report to Annual Session 2020

Dear Friends,

FCLCA is struggling financially while simultaneously being successful at their lobbying work. Staff has agreed to a 30% reduction in pay for FCLCA to stay viable until the end of the year.

In addition, the FCLCA board recently made several commitments that are important to note: to develop a plan that will maintain the presence of Friends in the State Capitol in future years, and to involve our loyal supporters in developing a long-range solution to the financial challenges.

We hope that you can continue your financial support. Beyond that, we encourage you to let us know if you think you could be more active and engaged in State policy-making. We are looking for both short-term and long-range solutions that will enhance the stability and effectiveness of the FCLCA legislative action program. Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

Perhaps more than ever, we ask that you continue to let friends and allies know about the important work that a voice for Friends values is doing in Sacramento.

We want you to know the Friends Committee on Legislation of California stands in unity with Black Lives Matter. The horrific killings of George Loyd, Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor and countless other African-Americans, usually at the hands of the police and conducted with impunity, must end. Now.

Bills that FCLCA is supporting to address systemic racism:

- ACA 5, by Shirley Weber, allows voters to retain or repeal Proposition 209 enacted by the voters in 1996, which ended Affirmative Action in university admissions and public employment.
- AB 3121, by Shirley Weber, establishes the Task Force to Study and Develop Reparations Proposals for African Americans.
- ACA 6, by Kevin McCarty, places a constitutional amendment on the ballot to restore the voting rights for persons on parole.
- AB 2054, by Sydney Kamlager, creates the Community Response Initiative to Strengthen Emergency Systems (C.R.I.S.E.S.) Act pilot grant program to promote community-based responses to local emergencies.
- SB 144, by Holly Mitchell, ends the assessment and collection of administrative fees imposed against people in the criminal justice system.
- SB 555, by Holly Mitchell, reduces the cost of phone calls and commissary markups in detention facilities (co-sponsored by FCLCA).
- AB 3070, by Shirley Weber, prohibits the use of a preemptory challenge to strike a prospective juror based on race and recognizes implicit bias.
- AB 2512, by Mark Stone, modernizes California's definition of "intellectual disabilities" to conform state law to clinical standards.

Your continued support allows FCLCA to continue vital work.

Thank you,

Shannon Frediani, PYM rep to FCLCA

(Report compiled from material by Jim Lindburg, Vicki Carroll and Shannon Frediani)