



## 2007 California Legislative Wrap Up

The 2007 California legislative session was one of both victories and setbacks for women and girls. California NOW tracked more than 100 bills and actively lobbied, wrote letters, and testified on most. Several CA NOW-supported bills were signed into law by Governor Schwarzenegger. Thanks to your support, none of the bills we opposed went to the Governor's desk! We will continue the fight on those bills that were held in committee when the legislature reconvenes in January.

CA NOW achieved success in the arenas of LGBT rights, comprehensive sex education, the rights of incarcerated women, strengthening child support and improving healthcare for low-income Californians. There's still work to be done to expand paid family leave, provide universal healthcare to those in need, end wage discrimination, and secure equal marriage rights for all Californians.

Below is a summary of the action taken on several of CA NOW's highest priority bills.

### **Governor Schwarzenegger signed the following bills into law:**

AB 14 (Laird) – Discrimination: Civil Rights Act of 2007.

Strengthens protections against discrimination based upon sex, race, color, religion, age, national origin, disability, ethnic group identification, and sexual orientation in a variety of situations.

AB 28 (Huffman) – Personal Income Taxes: Contributions: CA Breast Cancer Research Fund.

Extends the operation of the Personal Income Tax Law, which allows taxpayers to designate on their tax returns that a specified amount be contributed to the State Breast Cancer Research Fund.

AB 76 (Lieber) – Corrections: female inmates.

Creates policies to ensure a safe and productive environment for incarcerated women in California, and creates gender-responsive rehabilitative programming and increased prison staffing.

AB 102 (Ma) -- Marriage: domestic partnerships: name.

Allows anyone, regardless of gender or sexual orientation, who gets married or registers as a domestic partner, to change their name.

AB 176 (Jones) CalWORKS: child support.

Increases the amount of child support to be paid to a recipient of CalWORKS aid to \$100 for a recipient with one child, or \$200 for a recipient with 2 or more children.

AB 603 (Price) – Voter Registration: Confidentiality.

Extends the application of the Address Confidentiality for Victims of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking and Address Confidentiality for Reproductive Health Care Service Providers, Employees, Volunteers, and Patients programs.

AB 629 (Brownley) – Sex Education Programs: Requirements.



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Enacts the Sexual Health Education Accountability Act, which would require any program that provides education to prevent adolescent or unintended pregnancy or to prevent STIs and receives state funding to be comprehensive, bias-free and medically accurate.

SB 94 (Kuehl) -- Medi-Cal: reimbursement rates.

Requires a rate increase that would bring family planning rates to at least 80 percent of the weighted average of the federal Medicare rates for similar office visits.

SB 777 (Kuehl) -- Discrimination.

Prevents discrimination in schools based upon race, sex, color, creed, handicap, national origin, or ancestry.

### **The Governor vetoed the following bills:**

AB 43 (Leno) – Gender-neutral marriage.

Allows for same-sex marriage, providing that marriage is a personal relation arising out of a civil contract between two persons, not necessarily a man and a woman.

AB 314 (Soto) – CalWORKs: Welfare-to-work Activities.

Allows CalWORKs parents in vocational training and education to count study time as core hours toward satisfaction of their weekly welfare-to-work participation requirement.

AB 435 (Brownley) – Wage Discrimination.

Requires employers to maintain wage and job classification records for 5 years. Extends the statute of limitations for a civil action by an employee to recover wages and for actions in which there is willful misconduct of the employer.

AB 537 (Swanson) – Family and medical leave.

Expands the definition of “child” under the California Family Rights Act, allowing for an employee to take protected leave to care for his or her sibling, grandparent, grandchild and parent-in-law, and be guaranteed work upon his or her return.

AB 1328 (Hayashi) -- Public Health.

Removes the requirement that a person must be a resident of the state for at least six continuous months prior to being eligible for the Access for Infants and Mothers Program (AIM).

SB 727 (Kuehl) – Unemployment and disability compensation benefits.

Adds siblings, grandparents, grandchildren and parents-in-law to the list of family members in the California Paid Family Leave Law for whom workers can take time off to provide care; expands the family temporary disability insurance program.

SB 836 (Kuehl) -- Fair employment: familial status.

Adds familial status to the list of bases upon which the right to seek, obtain and hold employment cannot be denied.