



CFILC State Legislation End of 2023 Session Report

1. [SB 271](#) (Dodd) –Power Wheelchair Right to Repair.
SUMMARY: Establishes rules for consumers and independent providers to access parts, tools, and documentation for the repair and maintenance of their powered wheelchairs. Modeled after the Colorado Right to Repair bill enacted in 2022. Supported by CALPIRG, SCDD, CA Senior Legislature, and Consumer Reports.
STATUS: 10/07/2023 **VETOED!**
COSPONSOR
2. [AB 12](#) (Haney) – Tenancy: Security Deposits.
SUMMARY: Caps the security deposit a property owner could collect from a tenant to one month’s rent for either a furnished or unfurnished rental property, therefore removing a huge barrier to housing access and affordability. Supported by Justice in Aging and Western Center on Law & Poverty.
STATUS: 10/11/2023 **SIGNED!**
SUPPORT
3. [AB 449](#) (Ting) – Hate Crimes: Law Enforcement Policies.
SUMMARY: Requires law enforcement agencies to adopt a hate crimes policy, following specific guidelines when responding to an incident. Supported by CARA, The Arc, and DRC.
STATUS: 10/09/2023 **SIGNED!**
SUPPORT
4. [AB 545](#) (Pellerin) – Elections: Access for Voters with Disabilities.
SUMMARY: Improves accessibility for voters with disabilities by requiring that all in-person voting locations offer curbside voting and remove the requirement for voters with disabilities to swear under oath if they need assistance completing a ballot. Sponsored by DRC.

STATUS: 10/10/2023 **SIGNED!**

SUPPORT

5. [AB 1085](#) (Maienschein) – Medi-Cal: Housing Support Services
SUMMARY: Improves access to affordable housing and in-home housing support under Medi-Cal. Cosponsored by WCLP, Supported by DRC and Justice in Aging.
STATUS: 10/07/2023 **VETOED!**
SUPPORT

6. [SB 17](#) (Caballero) – Seniors: low-income housing tax credits
SUMMARY: Expands the use of low-income housing tax credits for senior housing developments. Sponsored by Leading Age and PIRS.
STATUS: 10/07/2023 **VETOED!**
SUPPORT

7. [SB 311](#) (Eggman) - Medicare Part A Buy-In (Make Medicare More Affordable for Low-Income Older Adults).
SUMMARY: Expands Medicare options for low-income individuals with disabilities and seniors. Sponsored by Justice in Aging.
STATUS: 10/10/2023 **SIGNED!**
SUPPORT

8. [SB 411](#) (Portantino) – Open Meetings: Teleconferences: LA Neighborhood Councils.
SUMMARY: Extends the use of teleconferencing indefinitely at Los Angeles area neighborhood council meetings, similar to the emergency provisions created during the pandemic.
STATUS: 10/10/2023 **SIGNED!**
SUPPORT

9. [SB 544](#) (Laird) Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act: teleconferencing.
SUMMARY: Requires state government agencies to offer remote audio access, remote observation, and in-person attendance for their teleconferenced public meetings.
STATUS: 09/22/2023 **SIGNED!**
SUPPORT

INACTIVE BILLS

[SB 585](#) (Niello) – Disability access: construction-related accessibility claims: statutory damages: attorney’s fees and costs.
SUMMARY: Current disabled access laws do not require state inspectors to enforce the law or fine business owners for noncompliance. Disabled people can only enforce disability laws with the use of lawsuits. SB 585 will further limit that access and increase the exclusion of people with disabilities from community life.
STATUS: 06/08/2023 Two-Year Bill in Assembly Judiciary Committee. **OPPOSE**

[AB 21](#) (Gipson) – Peace Officers Training.
SUMMARY: Requires the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) to revise their training for officers on interacting with persons with mental illness or intellectual disabilities to also include instruction on interacting with persons with Alzheimer’s. Supported by Alzheimer’s Association (Eric Dowdy – fellow CCLTSS board member) and law enforcement orgs.
STATUS: 05/18/2023 **HELD** in Assembly Appropriations Committee
SUPPORT

[AB 222](#) (Arambula) – Civil Rights Department: Californians with Disabilities Workgroup.
SUMMARY: Authorizes the Civil Rights Department to create a workgroup to study policies related to workforce and employment that affect Californians with disabilities and recommends changes to the state’s laws and policies that would reduce high rates of unemployment among people with disabilities.
Sponsored by DRC, and supported by The Arc, and United Cerebral Palsy California.
STATUS: 05/18/2023 - **HELD** in Assembly Appropriations Committee.
SUPPORT

[AB 280](#) (Holden) – California Mandela Act: Segregated Confinement.
SUMMARY: Ends the use of solitary confinement for designated populations, including people who are pregnant, 60 years of age or older, or have serious disabilities.

Co-sponsored by Disability Rights California

STATUS: 09/14/2023 Assembly Inactive File.

SUPPORT

[AB 486](#) (Kalra) – Nursing Home Citation Appeals.

SUMMARY: Increases punishments and fines for nursing home violations that result in the death or probable death of a resident.

Sponsored by DRC.

STATUS: 07/11/2023 Two-Year Bill in Senate Judiciary Committee.

SUPPORT

[AB 488](#) (Nguyen) – Skilled Nursing Facilities: Vision Loss.

SUMMARY: Requires staff training and services for residents who are blind or have low vision, to one of the express purposes existing FOR Medi-Cal funds to be allocated by managed care plans to SNFs. Allowing Medi-Cal funding to enable these facilities to contract for the staff training and services will dramatically improve the lives of residents with low vision.

Sponsored by CA Council of the Blind.

STATUS: 03/27/2023 Two-Year Bill in Assembly Health Committee.

SUPPORT

[AB 770](#) (Kalra) – Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly.

SUMMARY: Current law and zoning regulations limit small operators of RCFE's to only serve and house six or fewer individuals. RCFE's that have the capacity to expand must go through a process to obtain a conditional use permit, which are rarely issued.

Cosponsored by the CA Commission on Aging.

STATUS: 05/18/2023 – **HELD** in Assembly Appropriations Committee

SUPPORT

[AB 846](#) (Bonta) – Low-Income Housing Credit: Rent Increases
SUMMARY: Prohibits a project assisted by the low-income housing tax credit from increasing rent for a unit in excess of the amount permitted by the program as a result of an increase in the area median gross income, or an unspecified amount, whichever is less. Cosponsored by WCLP, Supported by DRC and Justice in Aging.
STATUS: 05/25/2023 Assembly Inactive File.
SUPPORT

[AB 1157](#) (Ortega & Wilson) – Durable Medical Equipment (DME) Rehabilitative & Habilitative Services.
SUMMARY: Requires California health plans and insurance policies cover DME as a covered essential health benefit. Sponsored by WCLP and National Health Law Program.
STATUS: 09/01/2023 **HELD** in Senate Appropriations Committee.
SUPPORT

[SB 37](#) (Caballero) - Older Adults and Adults with Disabilities Housing. *Follow up to AB 2547 from last year.*
SUMMARY: Creates a targeted housing stabilization program that will prevent and solve homelessness for thousands of older adults and people living with disabilities. Requires DHCS to offer competitive grants to nonprofit community-based organizations, continuums of care, public housing authorities, and area agencies on aging to administer a housing subsidy program.
Sponsored by Justice in Aging, Leading Age CA and SCDD.
STATUS: 05/18/2023 **HELD** in Senate Appropriations Committee.
SUPPORT