

San Diego County Positions on Federal Legislation

[HR 5](#)

(Cicilline D) Equality Act

Summary: This bill prohibits discrimination based on sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity in areas including public accommodations and facilities, education, federal funding, employment, housing, credit, and the jury system. Specifically, the bill defines and includes sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity among the prohibited categories of discrimination or segregation. The bill expands the definition of public accommodations to include places or establishments that provide exhibitions, recreation, exercise, amusement, gatherings, or displays; goods, services, or programs; and transportation services. The bill allows the Department of Justice to intervene in equal protection actions in federal court on account of sexual orientation or gender identity. The bill prohibits an individual from being denied access to a shared facility, including a restroom, a locker room, and a dressing room, that is in accordance with the individual's gender identity.

CoSD Position

Support

[HR 8](#)

(Thompson D) Bipartisan Background Checks Act of 2021

Summary: This bill establishes new background check requirements for firearm transfers between private parties (i.e., unlicensed individuals). Specifically, it prohibits a firearm transfer between private parties unless a licensed gun dealer, manufacturer, or importer first takes possession of the firearm to conduct a background check. The prohibition does not apply to certain firearm transfers or exchanges, such as a gift between spouses in good faith.

CoSD Position

Support

[HR 842](#)

(Scott D) Protecting the Right to Organize Act of 2021

Summary: This bill expands various labor protections related to employees' rights to organize and collectively bargain in the workplace. Among other things, the bill revises the definitions of employee, supervisor, and employer to broaden the scope of individuals covered by the fair labor standards; the bill permits labor organizations to encourage participation of union members in strikes initiated by employees represented by a different labor organization (i.e., secondary strikes); and the bill prohibits employers from bringing claims against unions that conduct such secondary strikes. The bill also allows collective bargaining agreements to require all employees represented by the bargaining unit to contribute fees to the labor organization for the cost of such representation, notwithstanding a state law to the contrary; and expands unfair labor practices to include prohibitions against replacement of, or discrimination against, workers who participate in strikes. The bill makes it an unfair labor practice to require or coerce employees to attend employer meetings designed to discourage union membership and prohibits employers from entering into agreements with employees under which employees waive the right to pursue or a join collective or class-action litigation. The bill further prohibits employers from taking adverse actions against an employee, including employees with management responsibilities, in response to that employee participating in protected activities related to the enforcement of the prohibitions against unfair labor practices (i.e., whistleblower protections). Finally, the bill addresses the procedures for union representation elections, provides employees with the ability to vote in such elections remotely by telephone or the internet, modifies the protections against unfair labor practices that result in serious economic harm, and establishes penalties and permits injunctive relief against entities that fail to comply with National Labor Relations Board orders.

CoSD Position

Support

[HR 1280](#)

(Bass D) George Floyd Justice in Policing Act of 2021

Summary: This bill addresses a wide range of policies and issues regarding policing practices and law enforcement accountability. The bill increases accountability for law enforcement misconduct, restricts the use of certain policing practices, enhances transparency and data collection, and establishes best practices and training requirements. The bill enhances existing enforcement mechanisms to remedy violations by law

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enforcement. Among other things, the bill lowers the criminal intent standard—from willful to knowing or reckless—to convict a law enforcement officer for misconduct in a federal prosecution, limits qualified immunity as a defense to liability in a private civil action against a law enforcement officer, and grants administrative subpoena power to the Department of Justice (DOJ) in pattern-or-practice investigations. The bill establishes a framework to prevent and remedy racial profiling by law enforcement at the federal, state, and local levels. The bill also limits the unnecessary use of force and restricts the use of no-knock warrants, chokeholds, and carotid holds. The bill creates a national registry—the National Police Misconduct Registry—to compile data on complaints and records of police misconduct. The bill also establishes new reporting requirements, including on the use of force, officer misconduct, and routine policing practices (e.g., stops and searches). Finally, the bill directs DOJ to create uniform accreditation standards for law enforcement agencies and requires law enforcement officers to complete training on racial profiling, implicit bias, and the duty to intervene when another officer uses excessive force.

CoSD Position

Support

[HR 1446](#)

(Clyburn D) Enhanced Background Checks Act of 2021

Summary: This bill revises background check requirements applicable to proposed firearm transfers from a federal firearms licensee (e.g., a licensed gun dealer) to an unlicensed person. Specifically, it increases the amount of time, from 3 business days to a minimum of 10 business days, that a federal firearms licensee must wait to receive a completed background check prior to transferring a firearm to an unlicensed person. (This type of transaction is often referred to as a default proceed transaction.) If a submitted background check remains incomplete after 10 business days, then the prospective purchaser may submit a petition for a final firearms eligibility determination. If an additional 10 days elapse without a final determination, then the federal firearms licensee may transfer the firearm to the prospective purchaser. The Government Accountability Office must report on the extent to which the changes have prevented firearms transfers to prohibited persons. The Federal Bureau of Investigation must report on the number of petitions it receives for final federal firearms determinations. The Department of Justice, in consultation with the National Resource Center on Domestic Violence and Firearms, must report on further amendments to the background check process that would likely reduce the risk of death or great bodily harm to victims of domestic violence, domestic abuse, dating partner violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

CoSD Position

Support

[HR 1501](#)

(Huffman D) The Affordable Housing Redevelopment Act

Summary: This bill would reauthorize the Neighborhood Stabilization Program to help state and local governments purchase blighted, vacant, abandoned, foreclosed, or surplus properties, and convert them into affordable housing. Established in 2008, the Neighborhood Stabilization Program was created by Congress to provide aid and resources to communities impacted by The Great Recession. The Act would authorize \$1.5 billion for the Neighborhood Stabilization Program and funding would be available to local jurisdictions through competitive grants. Each new unit created would serve households whose income does not exceed 120 percent of area median income (AMI), and at least 25 percent of housing must serve households whose income does not exceed 50 percent AMI.

Attachments:

CoSD Position

Support

[HR 3053](#)

(Levin D) American Coasts and Oceans Protection Act

Summary: This bill would amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to prohibit oil and gas leasing in the Southern California planning area.

Attachments:

CoSD Position

Support

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[HR 3534](#)

(Panetta D) Wildfire Emergency Act

Summary: This Act would authorize funding to restore federal forests, implement a new grant program to assist critical facilities like hospitals and police stations to become better adapted to function during public safety power shutoff events, and would establish regional Prescribed Fire Centers to coordinate research and training of foresters and forest managers in the latest methods and innovations in controlled burn practices to reduce the likelihood of catastrophic wildfires.

Attachments:

CoSD Position

Support

[HR 4378](#)

(Bacon R) Protecting Sibling Relationships in Foster Care Act

Summary: This Act would establish a competitive grant pilot program to encourage the development of specialized foster care programs designed specifically for large sibling groups, sibling groups with a wide age range, and sibling groups with complex needs

CoSD Position

Support

[HR 4464](#)

(Lieu D) Fighting Homelessness Through Services and Housing Act

Summary: This bill authorizes \$1 billion per year in grants to governmental entities for the provision of housing and services to homeless individuals and families, including homeless children and youth, or those at risk of becoming homeless. Grant applicants would be required to demonstrate the ability to provide comprehensive services and case management, including addressing mental health and substance use disorders, to individuals or families experiencing homelessness, in addition to providing a 25 percent match of funds awarded.

CoSD Position

Support

[HR 4601](#)

(Levin D) Commitment to Veteran Support and Outreach Act

Summary: This bill would authorize federal funding for county veterans service officers (CVSOs) who are often the best resource to help veterans and their families understand resources at their disposal, file benefit claims, and represent veterans in VA hearings.

CoSD Position

Support

[HR 5414](#)

(Bilirakis R) Ensuring Medicaid Continuity for Children in Foster Care Act

Summary: This bill would provide a narrow exemption from the IMD exclusion to ensure children in foster care receiving care in QRTPs can continue to receive care provided in these settings without losing their federal Medicaid coverage.

CoSD Position

Support

[HR 5611](#)

(Rochester D) Behavioral Health Crisis Services Expansion Act

Summary: To empower communities to establish a continuum of care for individuals experiencing mental or behavioral health crisis, and for other purposes.

CoSD Position

Support

[HR 5735](#)

(Johnson R) State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial Fiscal Recovery, Infrastructure, and Disaster Relief Flexibility Act

Summary: This bill would allow states, tribes, territories, and localities to use certain COVID-19 relief funds for new categories of spending, including for natural disasters and

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infrastructure projects. It also makes changes to expenditure deadlines and other aspects of this funding.

CoSD Position
Support

[HR 6461](#)

(Peters D) National Climate Adaptation and Resilience Strategy Act

Summary: This bill would require the federal government to develop a whole-of-government National Climate Adaptation and Resilience Strategy in order to streamline the federal response to climate hazards that threaten human health, safety, and critical infrastructure. H.R. 6461 would help build local climate adaption and resilience efforts by increasing collaboration across all levels of government, assisting in the identification and application of federal funding opportunities, supporting the retreat or relocation of communities in areas of increasing risk from climate change, and more.

CoSD Position
Support

[HR 6685](#)

(Levin D) Spent Fuel Prioritization Act

Summary: This bill would amend the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982 to give the highest priority of removal of high-level radioactive waste or spent nuclear fuel for disposal or storage to a reactor that is decommissioned or decommissioning, located in an area with the largest population and with the highest hazard of an earthquake.

CoSD Position
Support

[S 393](#)

(Merkley D) Equality Act

Summary: This bill prohibits discrimination based on sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity in areas including public accommodations and facilities, education, federal funding, employment, housing, credit, and the jury system. Specifically, the bill defines and includes sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity among the prohibited categories of discrimination or segregation. The bill expands the definition of public accommodations to include places or establishments that provide exhibitions, recreation, exercise, amusement, gatherings, or displays; goods, services, or programs; and transportation services. The bill allows the Department of Justice to intervene in equal protection actions in federal court on account of sexual orientation or gender identity. The bill prohibits an individual from being denied access to a shared facility, including a restroom, a locker room, and a dressing room, that is in accordance with the individual's gender identity.

CoSD Position
Support

[S 572](#)

(Feinstein D) Border Water Quality Restoration and Protection Act

Summary: This bill would require the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to develop a comprehensive water quality management program for the Tijuana River watershed and to identify a consensus list of priority projects with its federal, state, and local partners. Additionally, the U.S. EPA would be authorized to accept and distribute funds to its partners to construct, operate, and maintain the identified priority projects. The Act would also codify EPA's existing border-wide program to fund water infrastructure projects that benefit U.S. communities and provide specific authority to the United States International Boundary and Water Commission to address wastewater, stormwater runoff, and other untreated flows.

CoSD Position
Support

[S 580](#)

(Feinstein D) The Affordable Housing Redevelopment Act

Summary: This bill would reauthorize the Neighborhood Stabilization Program to help state and local governments purchase blighted, vacant, abandoned, foreclosed, or surplus properties, and convert them into affordable housing. Established in 2008, the Neighborhood Stabilization Program was created by Congress to provide aid and resources to communities impacted by The Great Recession. The Act would authorize \$1.5 billion for

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the Neighborhood Stabilization Program and funding would be available to local jurisdictions through competitive grants. Each new unit created would serve households whose income does not exceed 120 percent of area median income (AMI), and at least 25 percent of housing must serve households whose income does not exceed 50 percent AMI.

CoSD Position
Support

[S 1855](#)

(Feinstein D) Wildfire Emergency Act

Summary: This Act would authorize funding to restore federal forests, implement a new grant program to assist critical facilities like hospitals and police stations to become better adapted to function during public safety power shutoff events, and would establish regional Prescribed Fire Centers to coordinate research and training of foresters and forest managers in the latest methods and innovations in controlled burn practices to reduce the likelihood of catastrophic wildfires.

CoSD Position
Support

[S 1902](#)

(Cortez Masto D) Behavioral Health Crisis Services Expansion Act

Summary: To empower communities to establish a continuum of care for individuals experiencing mental or behavioral health crisis, and for other purposes.

CoSD Position
Support

[S 2357](#)

(Feinstein D) Fighting Homelessness Through Services and Housing Act

Summary: This bill authorizes \$1 billion per year in grants to governmental entities for the provision of housing and services to homeless individuals and families, including homeless children and youth, or those at risk of becoming homeless. Grant applicants would be required to demonstrate the ability to provide comprehensive services and case management, including addressing mental health and substance use disorders, to individuals or families experiencing homelessness, in addition to providing a 25 percent match of funds awarded.

CoSD Position
Support

[S 2405](#)

(Baldwin D) Commitment to Veteran Support and Outreach Act

Summary: This bill would authorize federal funding for county veterans service officers (CVSOs) who are often the best resource to help veterans and their families understand resources at their disposal, file benefit claims, and represent veterans in VA hearings.

CoSD Position
Support

[S 2689](#)

(Burr R) Ensuring Medicaid Continuity for Children in Foster Care Act

Summary: This bill would provide a narrow exemption from the IMD exclusion to ensure children in foster care receiving care in QRTPs can continue to receive care provided in these settings without losing their federal Medicaid coverage.

CoSD Position
Support

[S 3011](#)

(Cornyn R) State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial Fiscal Recovery, Infrastructure, and Disaster Relief Flexibility Act

Summary: This bill would allow states, tribes, territories, and localities to use certain COVID-19 relief funds for new categories of spending, including for natural disasters and infrastructure projects. It also makes changes to expenditure deadlines and other aspects of this funding.

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CoSD Position
Support

Total Measures: 25

As of March 25, 2022