

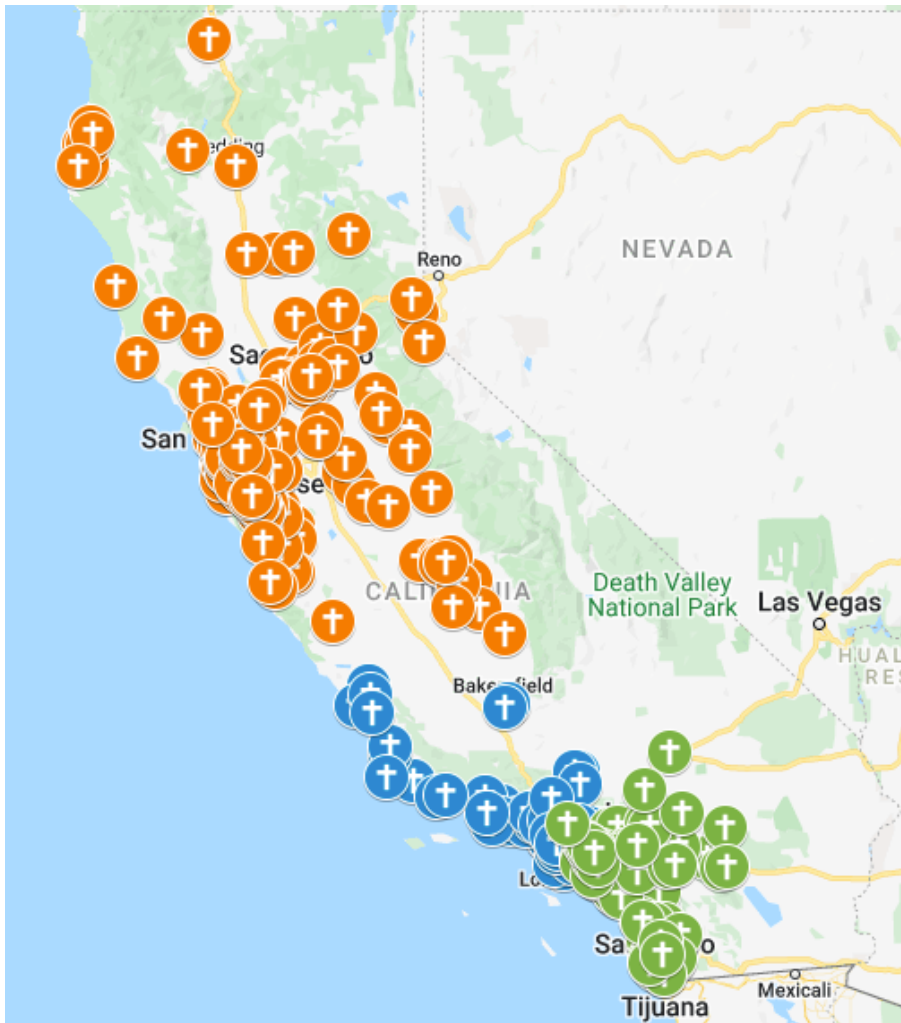
2022 PRIORITY LEGISLATION



LUTHERAN OFFICE of PUBLIC POLICY - CALIFORNIA

Our 2022 priority bills focus on supporting thriving children and families in California and access to food and water for all. Policies and the budgets that fund them are statements of values. As Lutherans, we see government as an integral part of supporting strong communities, particularly for the last and the least, as Jesus taught us.

OUR 400 CHURCHS



ABOUT US

The Lutheran Office of Public Policy - California represents the coordinated witness of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) on issues of public policy in the state of California. In addition to our presence on legislative matters, we provide education and networking for our 400 ELCA congregations across the state. We work hand in hand with other faith-based and secular groups seeking peace and justice.

PARTNERS

- Bread for the World
- Building the California Dream Alliance
- California Food and Farming Network
- California Interfaith Coalition
- End Child Poverty – CA

CONTACT INFORMATION

Regina Q. Banks
Director
Regina.Banks@elca.org

Nicole Newell
Lobby Day Coordinator
nicolenewell.loppca@gmail.com

2022 PRIORITY LEGISLATION



**LUTHERAN OFFICE
of PUBLIC POLICY
-CALIFORNIA**

Thriving Children and Families

SB 854 – SKINNER

POSITION: SUPPORT

The HOPE for Children Act

This bill establishes California's first baby bond program for children who lost a parent or caregiver to COVID-19 and eligible foster youth. The bill also lays the groundwork so one day California can expand the program to all children living in low-income circumstances.

BILL LOCATION

Senate Committee on
Appropriations

AB 2180 – WICKS

POSITION: SUPPORT

The Children of Incarcerated Parents and Caregivers Taskforce

This bill establishes the Taskforce for Children with incarcerated parents and caregivers as California lacks a statewide entity that focuses on identifying and addressing the needs of system-impacted children. Asm. Wicks will be including this bill in her working class families package of bills as an emphasis to the disproportionate impact mass incarceration has on working class families, especially women, and the destabilization that leads to.

BILL LOCATION

Suspense File, Assembly
Committee on
Appropriations

2022 PRIORITY LEGISLATION



**LUTHERAN OFFICE
of PUBLIC POLICY
-CALIFORNIA**

Thriving Children and Families

AB 2589 - SANTIAGO

POSITION: SUPPORT

CalEITC Expansion

This bill provides a 1-time payment of \$2000 per child dependent to California residents who made less than \$30,000 in 2021 and file their taxes. Increase the California Earned Income Tax Credit (CalEITC) minimum tax credit to about \$255 per eligible tax filer. AB 2589 would benefit approximately 5 million Californians, including 2 million children.

BILL LOCATION

Assembly Committee on
Appropriations

AB 1615 – TING

POSITION: SUPPORT

Foster Youth Housing

Each year, nearly 3,500 foster youth “age out” of the system with no extended family to assist them. AB 1615 expands the eligibility and program duration for existing housing programs targeted to serve former foster youth. AB 1615 allows counties to maximize federal resources and ensures this vulnerable population of transitional age youth have the support they need to transition into safe, stable housing.

BILL LOCATION

Assembly Committee on
Appropriations

2022 PRIORITY LEGISLATION



**LUTHERAN OFFICE
of PUBLIC POLICY
-CALIFORNIA**

Food and Water for All

SB 464 - HURTADO

Food for All

This bill expands the California Food Assistance Program (CFAP) to include undocumented Californians. CFAP currently provides food assistance only to lawful permanent residents who do not qualify for CalFresh (the federal SNAP program in California) because they are not citizens. Approximately 1 in 10 Californians experienced food insecurity prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, yet two million undocumented immigrants were not eligible for most food assistance.

POSITION: SUPPORT

BILL LOCATION

Assembly (2nd House)
Committee on
Appropriations

SB 222 – DODD

Water Rate Assistance

This bill requires the Department of Community Services and Development (CSD) to develop and administer the Water Rate Assistance Program to provide water affordability assistance for both drinking water and wastewater services to low-income ratepayers.

POSITION: SUPPORT

BILL LOCATION

Assembly floor, inactive file