

SMALL BUSINESS ROUNDTABLE JANUARY 21, 2021 CONVENING

Hosted by the Assembly Committee on Jobs, Economic Development, and the Economy Assemblymember Sabrina Cervantes, Chair



WELCOME AND OVERVIEW

Agenda Item I

AGENDA

- I. Welcome and Overview
- II. Economic Data and the Blueprint for Recovery
- III. Updates on Economic Recovery Programs and Initiatives
- IV. 2021 Federal and State Public Policy Issues
- VI. Final Comments and Adjournment

NEW PEOPLE JOINING THE CONVERSATION

- Nick Ellis, Small Business Majority (njellis13@gmail.com)
- •Jessica M. Gonzales, Economic Development Director for the City of Corona (<u>Jessica.Gonzales@CoronaCA.gov</u>)
- Jenna Guillen with the office of Policy at the Assembly Republican Caucus (<u>Jenna.Guillen@asm.ca.gov</u>)
- Maral Hernández, San Bernardino County Executive Office (joining after 2:30 pm) (Maral.Hernandez@cao.sbcounty.gov)



ECONOMIC DATA AND THE BLUEPRINT FOR RECOVERY

Agenda Item II

DATA POINTS

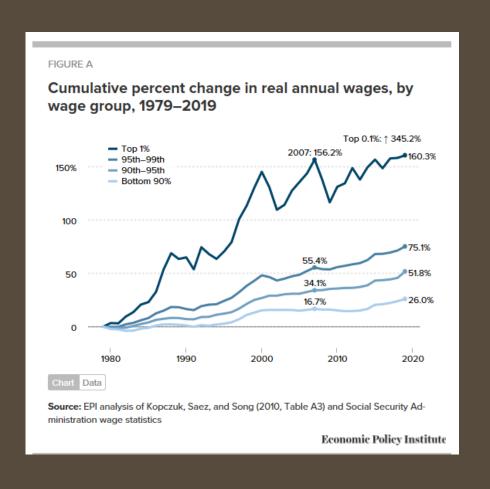
FEDERAL Unemployment – 6.9% (December 2020)

- *US nonfarm payroll employment decreased by 140,000 in December 2020, and the unemployment rate fell to 6.7% with 10.7 million people unemployed.
- Notable job gains occurred over the month in transportation and warehousing, professional and business services, and health care industry sectors.
- The December 2020 unemployment rates: adult women (6.3%), adult men (6.4%), teenagers (16.0%), Whites (6.0%), Blacks (9.9%), Asians (5.9%), and Hispanics (9.3%).

CALIFORNIA Unemployment – 8.2% (November 2020)

- *Total nonfarm employment in CA for November 2020 was 17.3 million, reflecting an increase of 57,100 jobs from the prior month.
- *CA reported over 1.3 million unemployed individuals for the month of November 2020. Labor participation rate of 60% - down 2.6% from the prior year.
- Between March and April 2020, CA lost 2.6 million jobs.
- *70,450 initial UI and Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) claims were filed for the week ending January 9.
- *10.5 million initial UI and PAU claims were filed between March 14 and week of January 9, 2020.
- *\$113 billion paid to out of work Californians since start of pandemic.

WAGE DISPARITIES CONTINUED TO GROW IN 2019



- ■The top 1.0% saw their wages grow by 160.3%; and
- wages for the top 0.1% grew more than twice as fast, up a spectacular 345.2%.
- In contrast, those in the bottom 90% had annual wages grow by 26.0% from 1979 to 2019.

This disparity in wage growth reflects a sharp long-term rise in the share of total wages earned by those in the top 1.0% and 0.1%.

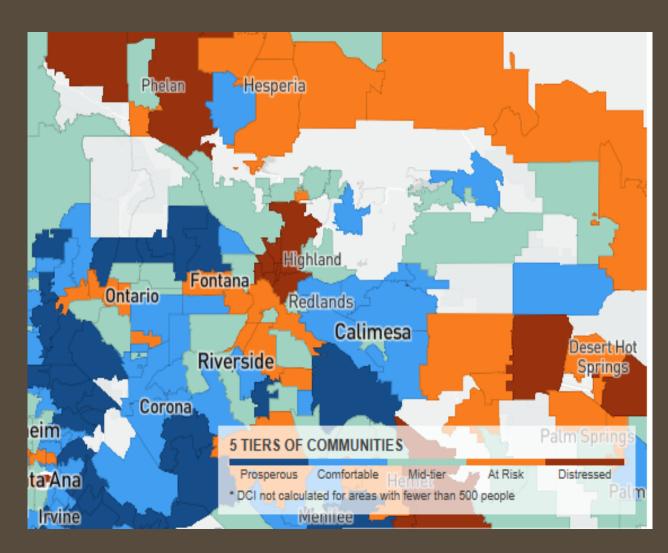
This research is undertaken using SSA wage data from W-2 earnings, which include realized stock options and vested stock awards.

https://www.epi.org/blog/wages-for-the-top-1-skyrocketed-160-since-1979-while-the-share-of-wages-for-the-bottom-90-shrunk-time-to-remake-wage-pattern-with-economic-policies-that-generate-robust-wage-growth-for-vast-majority/?utm_source=Economic+Policy+Institute&utm_campaign=aaf50a887f-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2019_02_21_07_37_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_e7c5826c50-aaf50a887f-58654365&mc_cid=aaf50a887f&mc_eid=0fdbd68996

DISTRESSED COMMUNITIES INDEX

The Distressed Communities Index, developed by EIG, includes a wide range of census-tract level data that is intended to help inform Opportunity Zone investments. Data points provided by EIG.

- **Race:** 50.5 million Americans reside in distressed communities, and 56 percent of them are people of color.
- ■Geography: The population of prosperous urban zip codes doubled between 2000 and 2018 as well-being improved and the country's urban geography expanded, especially in the West.
- **Economy:** Nearly one-quarter of working adults in distressed zip codes are employed in the services sectors on the front-lines of the pandemic recession.



[■] Prepared by EIG: https://eig.org/dci/interactive-map

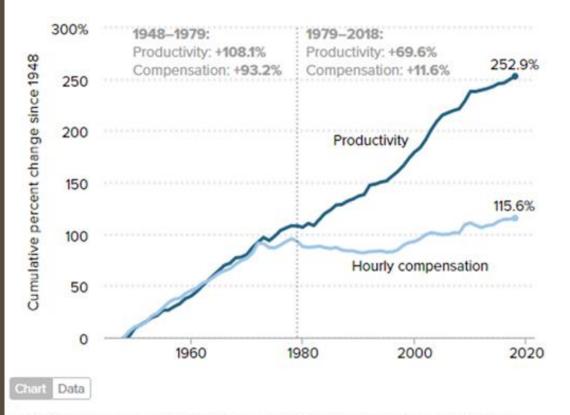
PRODUCTIVITY-PAY GAP

- Over the last 40 years, wages have plateaued as productivity continued to increase.
- This trend contributed the economic vulnerability of workers coming into the pandemic.
- In March and April of 2020, 21.5 million workers lost their jobs, and 12.7 million lost their health insurance when they became unemployed.

https://www.epi.org/blog/moral-policy-good-economics-whats-needed-to-lift-up-140-millionpoor-and-low-income-people-further-devastated-by-thepandemic/?utm_source=Economic+Policy+Institute&utm_campaign=15f4856b95-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2019_02_21_07_37_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_e7c582 6c50-15f4856b95-58654365&mc cid=15f4856b95&mc eid=0fdbd68996#Productivity-Pay-Gap

Inequality is rising as workers are increasingly cut out of the economic returns to productivity growth

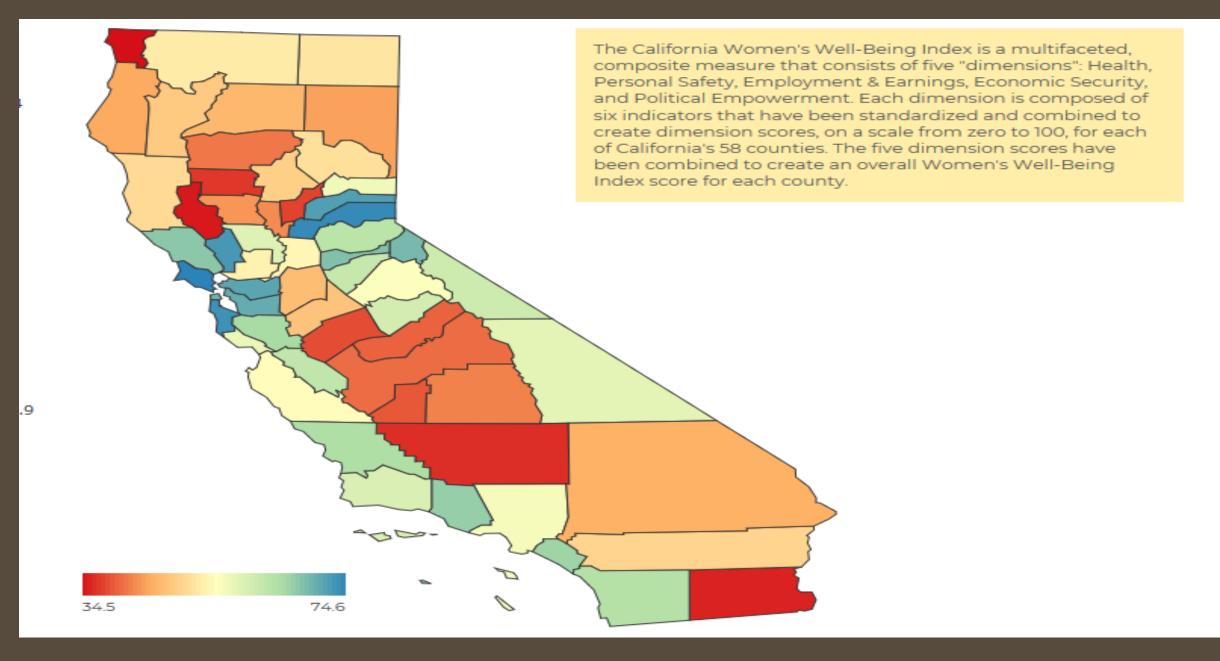
Productivity growth and hourly compensation growth, 1948–2018



Notes: Data are for compensation (wages and benefits) of production/nonsupervisory workers in the private sector and net productivity of the total economy, "Net productivity" is the growth of output of goods and services less depreciation per hour worked.

Source: Adapted from The Productivity—Pay Gap, Economic Policy Institute, July 2019.







UPDATES ON ECONOMIC RECOVERY PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES

Agenda Item III



FOCUS AREAS

- Updates on Approved Economic Recovery Initiatives
- Strategies to improve program delivery

WHAT ARE SOME KEY RECOVERY CHALLENGES?

- Small businesses, especially women- and BIPOC-owned businesses, must be a priority in the state's recovery efforts. Data continues to suggest these businesses are having the greatest challenges in accessing technical and financial assistance.
- Many small businesses are concerned about being able to meet re-opening health and safety protocols. It is difficult to keep-up on changes and the wording can be too vague.
- □Small businesses are concerned about being sued by employees and customers for being exposed to COVID-19.
- Small businesses face many challenges in accessing sufficient amounts of PPE, as well as paying for higher and ongoing additional costs of operation during the pandemic.
- ☐ With traditional procurement outreach methods on hold, small businesses are finding it difficult to meet prime contractors who may be bidding on state contracts.

SPEAKERS — AGENDA ITEM III

- Toni Symonds, JEDE Committee, will facilitate a discussion.
- ☐ Jessica M. Gonzales with Economic Development Dept at the City of Corona
- ☐ Lorrie Aiello with CMTC
- Jai Sharma with the Silicon Valley Consulting Group
- Claudia Viek with Invest in Women Entrepreneurs and the California Women's Business Center Network
- Heidi Pickman with CAMEO
- ☐ Bianca Blomquist with Small Business Majority

Other roundtable participants are encouraged to also share their priorities and experiences.

Economic Recovery and Business Resiliency



• Workplace Safety Webinar Jan. 27, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

http://bit.ly/MfgAsst-Jan27



- English and Spanish
 - Business Fundamentals
- Emprendedor@s
 - Starts Feb. 9th, 5 p.m.
 - 8-week academy









TWO NEW WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTERS IN CALIFORNIA

The US Small Business Administration announced grant funding and the designation of 20 new Women's Business Centers (WBC), including new WBCs in Bakersfield and Monterey.

The opening of these 20 new WBCs is the largest single expansion of WBCs in its 30-year tenure.

The new California host organizations: El Pajaro Regional Women's Business Center (Monterey, CA) and Mission Community Women's Business Center serving Kern County (Bakersfield, CA).



https://www.sba.gov/article/2021/jan/04/sba-launches-largest-expansion-womens-business-centers-30-years

SB AND DVBE PROCUREMENT OUTREACH (CONTINUED)

Jai Sharma with the Silicon Valley Consulting Group led a roundtable collaboration that produced a set of 3 recommendations relating to small business and DVBE participation in state procurement.

isharma@svcqcorp.com

- Recommendation # 1— Increase pre-bid prime engagement with new SB and DVBE partners. Bart is mandating online speed dating.
- ■Recommendation # 2 Expand state outreach activities to include industry-specific events.
- Recommendation # 3 Host online meet and greets between state agencies and groups of small business vendors. Establish a State Mentor/Protégé program, similar to the Feds.
- Collaborators: Bianca Blomquist, Small Business Majority; Tracy Stanoff, American Indian Chamber of Commerce, ADP Pro Web; Trish Funk & Nancy Swift, Women's Business Center at JEDI, e-jedi.org; Yolanda Benson, Government Relations, Team GSI; Charlotta Carter, GRI Tech Solutions; Shaila Mistry, NAWBO-CA, STEM Institute, Jayco MMI; Mack Ross, Black Chamber of Commerce; Frank Louie, CalAsian Chamber of Commerce; Phil Vermeulen, Coalition of Small & Disabled Veteran Businesses, pvgov.com; Lori Kammerer, Small Business California, NAWBO-CA & the CA Metals Coalition, Kammerer & Company, Inc.; Heidi Pickman, CAMEO Network; and Jai Sharma, Silicon Valley Consulting Group (Organizer & Facilitator)

SB AND DVBE PROCUREMENT OUTREACH (FINAL)

CALTRANS Small Business Outreach Program:

- **Senate Bill 1** (Beall, Chapter 5, Statutes of 2017), the Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017, invests \$54 billion over 10 years. In deploying these funds, Caltrans is required to develop an outreach plan by January 1, 2019, to increase procurement opportunities for new and limited contracting small business, including certain disadvantaged groups. [Government Code Section 14110.1]
- Among other activities, Caltrans is required to introduce new and limited contracting small business enterprises to prime contractors by organizing business matchmaking events and activities; contract-specific outreach events.

Definitions

Limited contracting small business enterprise: A certified small business, as defined in Section 14837, that has received fewer than five public contracts from the department in the previous two years or has received public contracts from the department totaling less than two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) in the previous two years.

New small business enterprise: A certified small business, as defined in Section 14837, that has not received a public contract from the department in the previous two years.

TRACKING IMPLEMENTATION OF SMALL BUSINESS RESOURCES

- \$500 million Small Business Grant Program. Qualifying small businesses and nonprofits can receive awards of up to \$25,000. https://business.ca.gov/osba-signup/
- \$100 million Main Street Tax Credit https://www.ftb.ca.gov/file/business/credits/small-business-hiring-credit.html
- □ Interest free extension on payments of Sales and Use Taxes to the State for businesses filing less than \$5 million in sales tax. https://www.cdtfa.ca.gov/
- \$12.5 million added to the California Rebuilding Fund, which provides capital to support small business loans. Provides \$125 million impact. https://www.connect2capital.com/p/californiarebuildingfund/
- □\$100 million new capitalization for the Small Business Disaster Loan Guarantee Program.

https://www.ibank.ca.gov/small-business/disaster-relief/

SMALL BUSINESS COVID-19 RELIEF GRANT PROGRAM

- ■\$500 million for small businesses and nonprofits
- ■First round (\$237.5 million) of funding closed on January 13
- Announcements of grant decisions will be provided on a rolling basis, beginning on January 15 and concluding by January 22
- ■300,000 applications were received for first round of funding totaling over \$2 billion
- Second round of funding opens on February 2 and closes on February 8
- All applications from eligible businesses and nonprofits that were not funded in the first round will be automatically submitted in the second round. No need for further action by the applicant.
- Assemblymember Cervantes Chair of JEDE has requested information on the applications and the awards, including race/ethnicity, gender, and geography
- Governor is requesting additional funding for the grant program (\$575 million)

PROGRAMS APPROVED IN 2019 - STILL BEING DEVELOPED

- *\$10 million Social Entrepreneurs for Economic Development initiative to assist economically disadvantaged groups who face significant barriers to employment, including, but not limited to, individuals with limited English proficiency.
 - While being administered by the California Workforce Development Board, the California Labor Agency is taking the lead in developing the program.
 - •Governor is requesting an additional \$35 million in the 2021-22 budget
- Climate Catalyst Revolving Loan Program at the IBank.
 - Funding will be provided through non-state governmental entities and private sources.
 - The Strategic Growth Council will advise the Legislature on categories to fund, and a report on the projects funded will be annually presented to the Legislature.
 - Governor is requesting \$97 million in the 2021-22 budget to support forest resilience (\$47 million) and agriculture-specific projects (\$50 million)
- •Are there other programs we should be tracking that are under development?

GROUP SOURCE RESPONSE REQUEST

Does anyone know of lenders doing PPP loans to new borrowers?

CAMEO is helping to collect and disseminate information.





2021 FEDERAL AND STATE PUBLIC POLICY ISSUES

Agenda Item IV

FOCUS AREAS

- Public Policy Priorities for 2021
- Economic Recovery Proposals Not Yet Approved
- Recommendations from Reports



Photo by Ivan Bertolazzi from Pexels

SPEAKERS — AGENDA ITEM IV

- Toni Symonds, JEDE Committee, will facilitate this discussion.
- ☐ Tracy Stanhoff with the American Indian Chamber of Commerce of CA
- ☐Bianca Blomquist with Small Business Majority
- Heidi Pickman with CAMEO

Advocates are encouraged to share their 2021 Federal and State Priorities and contribute to the "What's Going On" discussions.

NEW ISSUES

- Federal Stimulus Bill Signed December 2020
- Governor's Proposed State Budget for 2021-22 Introduced January 2021
- California Chambers Recovery Proposal Submitted January 2021
- Biden American Rescue Plan Announced January 2021
- ■Closure of the MBDA Centers throughout the US officially ends June 30, 2021. All center will be allowed 120 days to close out the award until October 31, 2021
- Biden Build Back Better Recovery Plan Being announced February 2021
- Congestion at the California Ports and Impact on the Supply Chain

BIDEN AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN

- \$1.9 trillion set of actions to combat the economic downturn and the Covid-19 pandemic. Key elements include:
- ■\$350 billion would help state and local governments bridge budget shortfalls, including funding to retain essential public workers, including police officers, firefighters, nurses, and educators
- \$2,000 in direct payments to individuals and households, calibrated by income. (\$1,400 + \$600 previous bill)
- Extended unemployment insurance and \$400 UI weekly supplement
- Small business assistance, including minority-owned small businesses and women-owned small businesses. Both debt and grants are envisioned
- Increase the federal minimum wage to \$15 an hour
- Federally mandated paid leave for workers
- Strategies to spur more manufacturing in the USA
- New investments in Research and Development to support innovation
- •Funding infrastructure to address competitiveness and climate

GOVERNOR'S PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2021-22 (CONTINUED)

This is a \$227.2 billion spending plan (\$164.5 billion General Fund), including significant investments intended to catalyze an equitable, inclusive and broad-based economic recovery. Top level investments include:

- •\$14.5 billion in investments designed to support economic recovery with a focus on those Californians who have been most impacted by the pandemic.
- \$90 billion to support California schools largest commitment to public K-12 education in California's history.
- •\$34 billion in actions to strengthen the state's fiscal position, including providing for budget reserves and discretionary surplus deposits.
- Reflects \$16 billion of the estimated budget surplus moneys

GOVERNOR'S PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2021-22 (CONTINUED)

Governor called on the Legislature to take immediate action on:

- •\$2.4 billion to capitalize the Golden State Stimulus program, which would provide \$600 to low-income individuals and families excluded from the federal stimulus (assists four million low-income Californians).
- ■\$2 billion to support and accelerate safe returns to in-person instruction starting in February.
- \$575 million for the Small Business COVID-19 Relief Grant program, which provides grants to small-businesses and nonprofits disproportionately impacted by the pandemic. Included within the Governor's \$4.5 billion Equitable Recovery for California's Businesses and Jobs plan.
- \$70.6 million to provide immediate and targeted fee relief for small businesses including personal services and restaurants. Funding for this fee relief is included within the Governor's \$4.5 billion Equitable Recovery for California's Businesses and Jobs plan.

GOVERNOR'S PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2021-22 (CONTINUED)

\$777.5 million for a **California Jobs Initiative**, which focuses on job creation and retention, regional development, small businesses and climate innovation. This includes:

- *\$340 million for the California Competes Tax Credit, including a new infrastructure grant and increases the annual allocation cap from \$180 million per year to \$280 million per year.
- ■\$250 million grant program that dedicates \$50 million to "high-need, high-opportunity areas of the state."
- *\$100 million to expand the Main Street Small Business Tax Credit from \$100 million to \$200 million.
- *\$35 million to expand the California Dream Fund, which was authorized and appropriated \$10 million as part of the 20-21 budget deal.
- ■\$50 million to recapitalize the Small Business Loan Guarantee programs at the IBank.
- ■\$50 million to the California Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank to undertake activities that benefit underserved businesses in California. This may include the California Rebuilding Fund
- ■\$100 million to expand the sales tax exclusion program administered by the California Alternative Energy and Advanced Transportation Financing Authority.

GOVERNOR'S PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2021-22 (FINAL)

- *\$575 million for the Small Business COVID-19 Relief Grant program, which provides grants to small-businesses and nonprofits disproportionately impacted by the pandemic. This would more than double the \$500 million allocated by the Governor in consultation with the Legislature on November 30, 2020.
- ■\$500 million to the Infill Infrastructure Grant Program to fund the development of 7,500 new permanently affordable homes. These funds will help defray the costs of sewers, roads and site preparation, while also supporting construction jobs. \$250 million of these funds are proposed for early action.
- ■\$385 million for targeted investments to build a more sustainable agricultural industry.
- *\$300 million one-time General Fund for deferred maintenance of state properties, including the greening of state properties and instillation of electric vehicle charging stations at state-owned facilities.
- *\$70.6 million for fee waivers for businesses and individuals impacted by the pandemic, including barbers, cosmetologists, manicurists, bars and restaurants.

ECONOMIC RECOVERY PROPOSAL LETTER SENT BY 180+BUSINESS ASC

- Immediate 6 month suspension of certain laws and regulations to reduce regulatory burdens on employers. Provide businesses a reasonable grace period to implement updated guidance and regulations
- Temporary delay the next installment of property taxes that are due in April 2021 to allow employers time to reopen and earn income/revenue
- Expand eligibility under the Small Business Grant Program to include slightly larger size employers and increase maximum grant amounts
- Develop an immediate financial reimbursement or quarterly tax offset for employers who are investing in state-mandated COVID-19 upgrades for their workspaces
- •Allow employers to utilize Net Operating Losses (NOLs) and Tax Credits this year
- Eliminate regulatory disincentives for telecommuting, such as laws that limit flexible work schedules
- Relieve employers of abusive lawsuits under the Labor Code Private Attorney General Act (PAGA)
- Use part of the one-time budget windfall to pay down the state's outstanding Unemployment Insurance loan from the federal government

 $\underline{https://calchamberalert.com/2021/01/15/allies-join-calchamber-call-for-covid-business-relief/}$

ONGOING PROJECTS

- □ Coalition of Small and Disabled Veteran Businesses is working on a micro-enterprise designation for public works projects AND update to workforce credit of the Target Area Procurement Preference. Phil@pvgov.com
- CAMEO has a preliminary proposal to reallocate unused small business funds.

 pickman@cameonetwork.org
- □ JEDE is initiating a work group on longer term certifications and their role in the state's economic recovery and building back better. Toni.Symonds@asm.ca.gov
- □ JEDE, in partnership with CAMEO and Small Business Majority, is facilitating What is Going On Workshops Toni.Symonds@asm.ca.gov
- CAMEO is organizing around the US Presidential Executive Order 13950.

hpickman@cameonetwork.org

WHAT IS GOING ON WORKSHOPS

Three Rounds of Discussion on December 15, 2020

- Access to Capital facilitated by Heidi Pickman with CAMEO
- ■Workforce and Quality Jobs facilitated by Toni Symonds with JEDE
- Technical Assistance facilitated by Tracy Stanhoff with the American Indian Chamber of Commerce of CA
- Other Key Collaborators Bianca Blomquist with Small Business Majority and Ben Warheit with JEDE

Project Goal

Develop a roadmap to aid public and private stakeholder groups in identifying major public and private proposals and understanding methods for follow-up.

Methodology

- Step One: Completion of an Excel document that identifies findings and recommendations
- Step Two: Identify key themes and areas of agreement (https://ajed.assembly.ca.gov/content/whats-going-mini-workshops)

ASSEMBLY INTRODUCED 278 BILLS (CONTINUED)

- ■AB 2 (Fong) Regulatory Reform
- AB 11 (Ward) Regional Climate Change Coordinating Groups
- AB 14 (Aguiar-Curry) Broadband Services and the California Advanced Services Fund
- AB 19 (Santiago, Chiu, and Kalra) Unemployment Benefits
- AB 25 (Kiley) Worker Classification
- AB 39 (Chau) California-China Climate Institute.
- AB 41 (Wood) Broadband Infrastructure
- AB 51 (Quirk) Regional Climate Adaption Planning Groups
- AB 55 (Boerner-Horvath) Employment and telecommuting

- AB 62 (Gray) COVID-19 Compliance Tax Credit
- AB 65 (Low) CA Universal Income Program
- AB 67 (Petrie-Norris) Economic Analysis of Rising Sea Levels
- AB 91 (Valladares) Small Business and Minimum Franchise Fee
- AB 96 (O'Donnell) Extension of Clean Truck Retrofit Loss Reserve Program
- AB 99 (Irwin) Longitudinal Data System for the California Cradle-to-Career Data
- AB 102 (Holden) College and Career Access Pathways Partnerships
- AB 103 (Holden) College and Career Access Pathway Partnerships
- AB 106 (Salas) Spot for Regions Rise

ASSEMBLY BILLS

AB 108 (Cunningham) Governor's Emergency Orders and Legislative Approval

AB 115 (Bloom) Commercial Zoning and Housing Development

AB 125 (R Rivas) Food and Agriculture, Climate and COVID-19 Recovery

AB 230 (Voepel) Employment: flexible work schedules

AB 231 (Nguyen) Worker Classification manicurists.

AB 240 (Rodriguez) Local Health Department Workforce Assessment

AB 247 (Ramos) Definition of Small Business under the Procurement and Contract Act

AB 249 (Choi) Income tax credits: research credit

AB 259 (Davies) Protecting Our Restaurants Tax Credit

AB 264 (Voepel) California Competes tax credit: pharmaceutical companies

SENATE INTRODUCED 235 BILLS

- SB 3 (Caballero and Bradford) COVID-19
 Tenant Protections
- SB 4 (Gonzalez) Broadband Infrastructure Finance
- SB 7 (Atkins) Jobs and Economic Improvement Through Environmental Leadership Act
- SB 18 (Skinner) Green Hydrogen
- SB 22 (Glazer) K-12 and College Bond
- SB 49 (Umberg) COVID Business Fee Waivers

- SB 61 (Hurtado) Workforce Training and Supportive Services
- SB 62 (Durazo) Garment Manufacturing Employees
- SB 74 (Borgras) Keep America Working Act
- SB 83 (Allen) IBank Sea Level Rise Revolving Loan Program
- SB 99 (Dodd) Community Energy Resilience Act of 2021



What organizations are hosting or promoting Holiday Gift Guides for Valentine's Day?



https://business.ca.gov/shopsafeshoplocal/calosba-media-toolkit/



CLOSING THOUGHTS

Links to Useful Information

STAY CONNECTED WITH GO-BIZ AND OPR

GO-Biz, the Office of the Small Business Advocate, and OPR are partnering on a range of activities, including weekly webinars and videos. You can stay connected through the following channels:

- ■To view the Entrepreneurship Task Force COVID-19 Rapid Response Online Sessions: https://business.ca.gov/advantages/small-business-innovation-and-entrepreneurship/help-us-advance-entrepreneurship/
- Subscribe to GO-Biz's Newsletter for COVID-19: https://business.ca.gov/gobiz-newsletter-signup/
- Subscribe to GO-Biz OZ Updates: https://opzones.ca.gov/sign-up/
- Subscribe to OPR's Federal Grants E-List: https://tinyurl.com/y9du7fg3
- ■Follow @CAGOBIZ on Twitter: https://twitter.com/CAGoBiz
- ■Follow @Cal_OPR on Twitter: https://twitter.com/cal_opr?lang=en
- Subscribe to the GO-Biz YouTube Channel: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCregW8KZRE4k1sXVZs2bPxw
- Submit questions to the California Business Investment Service: calbis@gobiz.ca.gov
- Submit questions regarding the Opportunity Zones and Promise Zones: zones@gobiz.ca.gov

JEDE COVID-19 ACTIVITIES

Conference Calls: JEDE is sponsoring monthly conference calls where stakeholders can share program and service delivery challenges in real time and seek resolution and mitigation actions within the broader business, economic, and workforce development community.

COVID-19 Updates: JEDE regularly publishes economic and business development updates to professionals engaged in meeting the needs of small businesses and local communities caused by the coronavirus emergency.

Resource Webpages:

- JEDE COVID-19 Resource Page: https://ajed.assembly.ca.gov/content/covid-19-resources
- Small Business Roundtable: https://ajed.assembly.ca.gov/content/small-business-roundtables