



POLICY ACTION AGENDA

Legislative Office Visits ♦ Wednesday, May 18th, 2022

This year, the Skills for California Network has shaped an action agenda that focuses on key policies needed to bolster and support an equitable and inclusive economy. Our Network is asking our state leaders to **support the following**:

- ♦ **AB 1746 (Medina/McCarty) Cal Grant Reform.** This bill would address long-standing structural inequities within the student financial aid Cal Grant program by removing barriers and expanding access to underserved students and adult learners. Modernizing the financial aid system will help to rebuild the state's workforce pipeline and fuel California's economic recovery.
- ♦ **AB 1705 (Irwin) Equitable Placement and Completion at Community Colleges.** This bill would remove barriers to certificate and degree completion by ending lengthy remedial sequences and placing students directly into transfer-level English and math coursework that is appropriate to their pathway, while also coupling these courses with co-requisite supports, as needed, to enable student success. This is a critical lever in meeting the education and workforce goals of the state.
- ♦ **AB 2847 (E. Garcia) Excluded Workers Pilot Program.** This bill would provide critical unemployment insurance benefits to excluded immigrant workers in California who could not access these benefits due to immigration status. The proposal would provide undocumented immigrants experiencing unemployment with \$300 per week for up to 20 weeks.
- ♦ **AB 2670 (McCarty) CA Regional Initiative for Social Enterprises Program (RISE).** This bill would create the RISE Program intended to support employment social enterprises to provide targeted, specialized employment and workforce training, and connect them with local public partners, training providers, and private sector employers to accelerate economic mobility for individuals that experience employment barriers.
- ♦ **AB 1816 (Bryan) Reentry Housing and Workforce Development Program.** This bill would create a competitive Reentry Housing & Workforce Development Grant Program to fund evidence-based housing, support services, and workforce development programs for people who were formerly incarcerated in state prisons and who are experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness.
- ♦ **Empowering Opportunity Youth.** The following proposals seek to provide support services, education & workforce training opportunities for CA's opportunity youth:
 - **\$100 million to expand the CA Youth Leadership Corps,** which would provide earn-and-learn training opportunities and resources for underserved students of color, immigrant youth and opportunity youth who are experiencing poverty and are facing significant barriers to education and employment.
 - **\$1.38 million to establish the Youth Empowerment Commission,** intended to empower underrepresented youth ages 14-25 with opportunities to engage in California's civic process with a focus on education, social services, workforce development, and public safety.
 - **AB 102 & AB 2617 (Holden)** would strengthen and expand dual enrollment programs by offering structured, well-sequenced pathways that count toward certificate and degree requirements by awarding students dual credit for college courses and credit toward high school graduation requirements, coupled with support services.