

## 2024 Legislative & Budget Priorities

### ➤ **AB 2191 (Santiago): Free Tax Preparation & Education Outreach** **CO-SPONSOR**

**Co-Sponsors:** The CalEITC Coalition, GRACE/End Child Poverty, and Golden State Opportunity

**Summary:** The Governor’s proposed budget cuts funding for the Free Tax Preparation Assistance (FTPA), Education and Outreach grant program from \$20 million to \$10 million, decimating vital support needed to reach tens of thousands of Californians with low to moderate incomes who rely on community-based organizations to help them file their taxes. AB 2191 (Santiago) and the associated budget request would maintain the \$20 million for FTPA and Education & Outreach programs.

**Cost:** \$20 million

### ➤ **AB 3020 (Reyes): 211 Statewide Advisory Committee** **CO-SPONSOR**

**Co-Sponsors:** 211 California, Inland SoCal United Way

**Summary:** AB 3020 (Reyes) would require the Office of Planning and Research to establish the 211 Advisory Committee for collaboration between 211 providers and state departments to enhance community engagement and resource accessibility. The committee would identify and review state agency activities and programs for 211 to coordinate with to improve access to services and programs; identify and establish an ongoing state or federal funding source for strengthening and supporting 211 infrastructure and operations; recommend 211 related policies and priorities to the Governor, the Legislature, and appropriate state agencies; and provide the Legislature with an annual report on the impact of 211 showcasing emerging trends and evolving needs.

**Cost:** \$500k in one-time funds to establish the council

### ➤ **SB 1049 (Padilla): Living Wage Formula Certification** **CO-SPONSOR**

**Supporters:** California Immigrant Policy Center, California School Employees Association, San Diego for Every Child, Grace Institute - End Child Poverty in CA, [and more](#).

**Summary:** SB 1049 would establish a Living Wage Formula that would ensure that Californians across the state know what constitutes a living wage in their county, region, and state on an annual basis. The bill also creates a voluntary certification program that would certify businesses as “Living Wage Employers” or “Living Wage Businesses.” This program would ensure that businesses have the opportunity to communicate with consumers that they pay a living wage, and employers could use this certification to recruit and retain employees, build partnerships, etc.

**Cost:** No known costs currently

### ➤ **AB 653 (Reyes): The Housing Voucher Acceleration Program** **CO-SPONSOR**

**Co-Sponsors:** California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation, Corporation for Supportive Housing, Housing California, National Housing Law Project, and Western Center on Law and Poverty

**Summary:** AB 653 (Reyes) would create a program to provide housing search assistance, landlord incentives, and deposit resources to help tenants with vouchers find and secure apartments in low poverty neighborhoods. The bill would also require housing authorities that have low lease-up rates to

apply evidence-based tools to increase utilization (such as increasing the value of a voucher by using Small Area Fair Market Rents) and to work with the Department of Housing and Community Development to further analyze and improve their voucher policies.

**Cost:** \$50-100 million, one-time

➤ **SB 1246 (Limon): Prompt Payment Act**

**CO-SPONSOR**

**Co-Sponsors:** CalNonprofits, California Nonprofit Equity Initiative

**Summary:** SB 1246 would extend the state's Prompt Payment Act to all state contracts with nonprofits, set a discrepancy amount to avoid delayed payment while trivial disputes are resolved, and remove the existing eligibility cap on nonprofit contracts. This bill will ensure greater equity in state contracting with nonprofit partners and the increased success of community impact efforts.

**Cost:** \$750,000 one time, \$500,000 ongoing