



# **11TH ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE SUMMIT & RECEPTION**

**BRIEFING PACKET**

AUGUST 5-6, 2020

# 11TH ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE SUMMIT & RECEPTION



## **Hello and welcome to California Asian Pacific Chamber of Commerce's 11th Annual Legislative Summit.**

On behalf of our entire organization, including our Board of Directors, we sincerely appreciate you taking time out of your busy schedule to virtually participate in this important program of the Chamber.

Every year, we convene our small business communities, regional leaders, and representatives at our Summit. This program has empowered our State's small business and Asian Pacific Islander (API) communities to learn about the legislative processes that affect them and how to become informed and involved advocates for themselves. We are especially appreciative to have **Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon** join us as a Keynote and **Assemblymember David Chiu** join as the API Caucus Chair.

Additionally, the Summit is followed by Legislative Office Visits on Thursday, **August 6, 2020**. These meetings afford our participants an opportunity to solidify their advocacy and political participation skills. We are extremely honored to have members of both Houses of the Legislature join us in both our program and Legislative Visits, including Senate Majority Leader, **Senator Robert Hertzberg**.

As a participant in this program, this Summit will provide you and your fellow delegates the needed access and information to the Legislature. There could not be a more critical time for API and minority voices to be represented in the legislative process.

It is our hope, and the hope of our sponsors, that this program serves you and your representative organization well. Without the support of our sponsors, this event would not be possible. If you have any policy questions throughout these two days, please contact our Director of Public Policy, David Nelson, at [dnelson@calasiancc.org](mailto:dnelson@calasiancc.org). For logistical questions, please contact our Digital Marketing & Events Coordinator, Janice Garcia, at [jgarcia@calasiancc.org](mailto:jgarcia@calasiancc.org). Thank you again for your participation.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pat Fong Kushida".

Pat Fong Kushida  
President & CEO  
California Asian Pacific Chamber of Commerce

## CALASIAN CHAMBER LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

### EDUCATION & WORKFORCE

A skilled and educated workforce is integral to the success of California's small businesses and their ability to compete locally and abroad. California needs a workforce that is competent, competitive, creative, and prepared to meet the needs of the state's economy and employers as they continue to transform. California is also home to the largest and most diverse student population in the country. Investment in public education is paramount – student achievement is the single best public policy predictor of a thriving state economy. Employers will be more competitive and workers will benefit as those with higher levels of education and training earn higher wages. CalAsian supports policies that increase workforce development programs and make higher education and vocational education more accessible and affordable. CalAsian also supports the creation of ethnic studies programs.

### BUSINESS FINANCE

CalAsian supports a business environment that offers support and makes it easier for businesses to grow and thrive. The Business Finance Committee covers issues including the following: access to capital, transparency in lending, taxation, regulatory reform, procurement and contracting, international investment – especially as they relate to Minority Business Enterprises (MBEs).

### HEALTHCARE

CalAsian believes that small businesses should have options in finding healthcare coverage for their business and employees and works to remove excessive regulation and other barriers to affordable and accessible healthcare. In addition, Californians within the API community face health challenges that include heart disease, hypertension and diabetes and differ by each API subgroup; CalAsian recognizes the various health concerns of the API community and supports efforts to address them.

### INFRASTRUCTURE

California faces a wide range of pressing infrastructure challenges to its long-term economic health, in sectors including: housing, water, energy, transportation, utilities, communication, and more. These challenges are exacerbated by the impacts of climate change, which disproportionately hit minority and poor communities that hardest. Minority and poor populations are more likely to die from extreme heat waves, breathe polluted air, suffer from economic downturns in climate-sensitive sectors such as agriculture and tourism, be vulnerable to floods and other natural disasters, and struggle to afford rising energy costs. As a prominent example, California's wildfires have been increasing in both intensity and frequency in recent years, and the destruction caused by these disasters has become the new normal. CalAsian recognizes the urgency of these infrastructure challenges and is committed to supporting all involved to work toward sustainable, equitable, and inclusive policy solutions.

## TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION

California is the nation's technology leader in job creation and innovation. Home to more than 1.1 million employees in the technology sector alone, California continues to benefit from private sector investment and economic growth year after year. With Californians continuing to embrace cutting-edge technologies, the state's economic growth and technology adoption go hand in hand. Investing in innovation for new technology across all sectors – autonomous vehicles in the transportation sector, for instance – and promoting widespread broadband and wireless accessibility is key to maintaining California's role as a global leader in innovation, technology, and communications. CalAsian advocates for information technology and telecommunication technology policies that advance free and open competition, promote a highly educated and technical workforce, encourage collaboration and cooperation in ideas and technology, and advance regulations that positively impact the ability of the private sector to effectively research, develop, integrate, manufacture, service and market solutions in the global marketplace.

## CANNABIS

We will continue to monitor legislation, policy, and regulation decisions identified as priorities by the California Cannabis Industry Association (CCIA). CCIA has been active in engaging legislative leaders and policy influencers around issues that affect the industry.

The development of local and state policies to regulate this new industry has created high demand for knowledge and education, particularly from small businesses and entrepreneurs. CalAsian aims to provide a network of education, information, and resources that help to clarify the quickly evolving abundance of regulatory guidelines in California's cannabis industry. It seeks to advocate on behalf of the API and small business community as the cannabis industry's regulatory scheme continues to unfold, improve their understanding and compliance with cannabis regulation, and closely track legislation that may affect their ability to compete in this industry.

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Back in April, in response to the quickly changing world and environment brought on by COVID-19, the CalAsian Chamber staff and Board drafted an agenda that would guide and inform the organization and our partners as to how we will respond to the growing needs and issues affecting the API business community across the State. The following document was approved by the Board and has been shared with key leaders, Legislators, and MOU partners and has also been endorsed by California Forward. We intend to use this agenda as a framework for economic inclusivity discussions with the Economic Summit, hosted by California Forward.



## 2020 Agenda: Pathways to Prosperity

### Eight Asian Pacific Islander (API) Business Facts to Know:

1. Minority populations are growing faster than non-minorities in the United States and will become the majority population by ~2045.<sup>1</sup>
2. API Americans are the fastest-growing ethnic group in the U.S.<sup>2</sup>
3. API consumer-buying power in the U.S. is projected to grow 32% to \$1.3 trillion in 2023. California represents one-third of the U.S. share (\$337 billion annually) of consumer buying power, 4x the next closest state (New York).<sup>3</sup>
4. Nearly half (46%) of all businesses in California are minority-owned, second in the U.S. only to Hawaii.<sup>4</sup>
5. Small businesses created 59% of all net new jobs (249,508) in California in 2016. Firms employing fewer than 20 employees experienced the largest gains, adding 176,744 net new jobs (42% of total job gain).<sup>5</sup>
6. The average API-owned business in California has eight employees.<sup>6</sup>
7. Minority-owned business enterprises (MBEs) are 2x as likely to export, 3x more likely to have international operations, and 6x more likely to transact business in a language other than English.<sup>7</sup>
8. More than 20% of API-owned small businesses are family-owned.<sup>8</sup>

Launched in 2010, the **California Asian Pacific Chamber of Commerce (CAPCC)** is now the largest statewide ethnic chamber in California. CAPCC represents the interests of ~600,000 Asian Pacific Islander (API)-owned businesses in the state that generate \$181 billion in annual revenue and employ over 910,135, with an annual payroll over \$26 billion. CAPCC advocates for policies, legislation and programs that help California's API-owned businesses reach new markets and provide growth opportunities. Its economic development programs and staff provides access, education, and opportunity to employers for healthy and resilient California communities.

### The Eight API Business Challenges:

California's return to economic growth depends upon the recovery of the small business sector, which represents the vast majority of net new job creation. Yet small businesses face significantly greater barriers to growth at their scale, including high healthcare costs, government regulation, tax burden and compliance,

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<sup>1</sup> Minority Business Agency, Federal Department of Commerce

<sup>2</sup> Federal Census, 2019

<sup>3</sup> Nielsen Company, Asian American Consumer Survey, 2019

<sup>4</sup> Federal Census Business Survey (2012)

<sup>5</sup> California Economic Development Department

<sup>6</sup> Federal SBA, Annual Survey of Small Business Entrepreneurs, 2016

<sup>7</sup> Minority Business Agency, Federal Department of Commerce

<sup>8</sup> Ibid



capitalization and cash flow, HR and contracting, and managing the tension between quality and growth, as self-reported by small business owners.<sup>9</sup> For MBEs, these obstacles are amplified by cultural and language barriers, historic race and ethnicity policy decisions, and location traits that place minority enterprises and their communities in persistent competitive disadvantage. To rectify this, special attention is needed from policy makers in government, business, and community sectors to assure equal opportunity and access to all. Because API businesses start from a competitive disadvantage when compared to non-minority enterprises, investments and policy changes aimed at supporting minority owned enterprises **must be fast-tracked** in California.

CAPCC believes to achieve a truly inclusive economic recovery in California that leverages the knowledge, skills and entrepreneurial talents of all, policymakers must enact changes that improve **employment (E)**, **ownership (O)**, **location (L)**, and **participation (P)** of minority-owned businesses. Specifically, the CAPCC is fighting for:

1. Pathways for minority career exploration in **business entrepreneurship**, especially within advanced economy sectors. (E/O)
2. Pathways to connect minority entrepreneurs and enterprises to **local innovation hubs** and research-focused universities and their investment networks. (E/O)
3. Pathways through state and federal agencies for improved **international business** and trade match-making and deal flow. (E/O)
4. Pathways for improved **minority workforce participation** and advancement. (P/E)
5. Pathways for increased minority small business participation as a solution provider for government and corporate **supply chains**. (P/E)
6. Pathways for placement of high-quality **business technical assistance programs and financing** and culturally-appropriate training programs within communities where high concentrations of minority populations reside. (L/E)
7. Digital pathways and investments that improve digital literacy, **digital skills**, and lower cost-of-access, especially in underserved communities where minority business populations historically are more concentrated. (L)
8. Pathways to key policy-setting bodies at the local, state and federal level to assure **minority participation** in decision-making and investment decisions that directly affects them and their communities. (P)

If enacted, these **eight Pathways to Prosperity** will accelerate California's recovery by increasing jobs, boosting new business formation and investment, expanding international trade and business connections, raising workforce readiness, and improving digital connectivity. These policy changes and investments **must be fast-tracked** by lawmakers, government agencies, education and corporate leaders to enable a rapid economic recovery for California and its people.

The California Asian Pacific Chamber of Commerce, working with our 53 API partners<sup>10</sup> in every region of the state, will work tirelessly in 2020 to see that this eight-point agenda is achieved in policy and practice.

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<sup>9</sup> Index of Small Business Optimism, National Federation of Independent Businesses

<sup>10</sup> See [www.calasiancc.org](http://www.calasiancc.org) for the list of MOU partners.

## LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS AND BILL TRACKING

### Business Finance

#### **SB 972 (Skinner) – Corporation Taxes Disclosure**

- Requires the Franchise Tax Board (FTB) to compile a list of taxpayers that are subject to the Corporation Tax (CT) Law, with gross receipts of \$5 billion or more, and to disclose the taxpayer's name, the tax liability owed by the taxpayer, and the total amount of credits claimed by the taxpayer.

#### **Trailer Bill Department of Business Oversight Expansion**

- TBD

### Tech

#### **AB 1850 (Gonzalez) – Worker Classification/Independent Contractors**

- This bill exempts from the “ABC test” for employment status certain occupations such as musicians, insurance inspectors and competition judges, appraisers and certain master teachers. This bill also revises the freelancer exemption and recasts the exemption for referral agencies

#### **AB 2257 (Gonzalez) – Worker Classification: Employees and Independent Contractors: Occupations: Professional Services**

- Exempts from the three part ABC test for employment status and instead applies the test set forth in the California Supreme Court's Borello decision (1989) to certain occupations, subject to specified conditions, in connection with creating, marketing, promoting, distributing sound recordings or musical compositions and performing in single-engagement live events.

#### **AB 3262 (Irwin) – Product Liability: Electronic Retail Marketplaces**

- This bill establishes strict liability from defective products purchased through electronic marketplaces.

### Education

#### **AB 570 (Aguiar-Curry) – Communications: broadband services: California Advanced Services Fund**

- This bill require that the CASF program promote remote learning and telehealth, in addition to economic growth, job creation, and the substantial social benefits of advanced information and communications technologies. The bill would require the commission, in approving CASF infrastructure projects, to instead prioritize projects that reach the greatest number of unserved and underserved households and to further prioritize projects based on other specified attributes.

### Workforce

#### **AB 3205 (Salas) – Regions Rise Grant Program**

- This bill would establish the Regions Rise Grant Program within the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development for the purpose of supporting inclusive, cross-jurisdictional, and innovative

processes that lead to inclusive strategies to address barriers and challenges confronting communities in creating economic prosperity for all.

## **SB 1103 (Hurtado) – Workforce Training Programs: Supportive Services**

- This bill establishes the Lifting Families Out of Poverty Supportive Services Program to make grant funding available to consortia, as defined, award grants to individual low-income workforce participants and requires the California Workforce Development Board (CWDB) to develop High Road Training Partnerships and other similar workforce training programs to address the displacement of workers.

## **Privacy**

### **AB 660 (Levine) – Personal Information: Contact Tracing**

- This bill would prohibit data collected, received, or prepared for purposes of contact tracing from being shared with any entity other than a public health entity. The bill would prohibit a law enforcement official from engaging in contact tracing.

## **Labor and Employment**

### **AB 685 (Reyes) – Occupational Safety: Notification**

- This bill would require a public or private employer to provide specified notifications to its employees, the Division of Occupational Safety and Health, and the State Department of Public Health, relating to the exposure of its employees to COVID-19 that the employer knew of or should have reasonably have known of, as specified. The bill would define “exposure to COVID-19.” The bill would make it a misdemeanor if an employer violates the notification requirements of these provisions. Because a violation of these provisions would be a crime, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

## **Energy**

### **AB 1720 (Carillo) – Energy: Long-Duration Energy Storage Procurement**

- This bill would require the PUC, by January 4, 2021, to report to the Governor, the Independent System Operator, the Department of Water Resources, and the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission (Energy Commission) on the specific types and amount of long-duration energy storage and in-service dates of that storage included in the integrated resource plans submitted by load-serving entities. The bill would require the PUC, in the report, to state whether it will issue an order on or before March 1, 2021, requiring load-serving entities, in the aggregate, to procure, at a minimum, the amount of long-duration energy storage capacity identified in the commission's decision referenced above for a specific threshold of emissions of greenhouse gases.

### **SB 364 (Mitchell)/Change in Ownership: Nonresidential Active Solar Energy Systems: Initiative**

- Changes the classification of nonresidential active solar energy systems from real property to personal property and creates a property tax exemption for systems constructed prior to January 1, 2025 if voters approve Proposition 15, an initiative constitutional amendment to require fair market value based property tax assessments for certain commercial and industrial real property.



## Healthcare

### **SB 980 (Umberg) – Privacy: Genetic Testing Companies: COVID-19 Testing**

- This bill would establish the Genetic Information Privacy Act, a comprehensive legal framework to regulate the collection, use, maintenance, and disclosure of genetic data collected or derived from a direct-to-consumer (DTC) genetic testing product or service, including enhanced notice and opt-in consent requirements.

## Housing

### **AB 2345 (Gonzalez and Chiu) – Density Bonus Law**

- This bill revises Density Bonus Law to increase the maximum allowable density and the number of concessions and incentives a developer can seek.

### **SB 899 (Wiener) – Planning and Zoning: Housing Development: Higher Education Institutions and Religious Institutions)**

- This bill provides that housing is a use by right on land owned by a religious institution or non-profit college.

### **SB 995 (Atkins) – Environmental Quality: Jobs and Economic Improvement Through Environmental Leadership Act of 2011: Housing Projects**

- This bill extends for four years the Jobs and Economic Improvement Through Environmental Leadership Act of 2011 until 2025; and makes housing projects that meet certain requirements, including specified affordable housing requirements and labor requirements, eligible for certification under the Act.

## Cannabis

### **SB 67 (McGuire) – Marketing: Appellations of Origin: County, City, or City and County of Origin**

- Extends temporary cannabis cultivation licenses (temporary license) until September 15, 2019, for applicants who submitted an annual application before the expiration date of the licensee temporary license, and authorizes licensing authorities to issue provisional temporary license to individuals without a temporary license, as specified.

### **SB 1244 (Bradford) – Cannabis Testing Laboratories**

- This bill authorizes a testing laboratory to receive and test samples of cannabis or cannabis products from state or local law enforcement, or a prosecuting or regulatory agency.

## Small Business

### **AB 1035 (Ramos) – COVID-19 Emergency: Small Businesses: Immunity From Civil Liability**

This bill would exempt a small business with 25 or fewer employees from liability for an injury or illness to a person due to coronavirus (COVID-19) based on a claim that the person contracted COVID-19 while at that small business, or due to the actions of that small business. The bill would require the

small business, for this exemption to apply, to have implemented and abided by all applicable state and local health laws, regulations, and protocols. The bill would not permit this exemption to apply if the injury or illness resulted from a grossly negligent act or omission, willful or wanton misconduct, or unlawful discrimination by the business or an employee of the business. The bill would apply these provisions only during the timeframe in which the state of emergency related to the COVID-19 pandemic is effective. The bill would repeal these provisions on January 1, 2023. The bill would include related legislative findings.

## Transportation

### **AB 2038 (Committee on Transportation) – Transportation Omnibus Bill**

- This bill, authored by the Committee on Transportation, makes several technical, noncontroversial changes to statute related to transportation.

### **AB 3277 (Jones-Swayer) – Parking Penalties: Collection**

- This bill expands the parameters according to which a processing agency—such as a local parking authority—must offer a parking penalty payment plan to an indigent person.

## “ECONOMIC EQUITY FIRST” PROPOSAL

The Public Policy team at the CalAsian Chamber has drafted this proposal for bill consideration by Legislators. We are hopeful that through our continual advocacy and lobbying efforts, as well as the work of this Legislative Summit, we will be able to continue uplifting and championing the voice and needs of API and minority business enterprises (MBEs) across the State.

### GOAL

To introduce language that prioritizes and supports Minority Business Enterprises (MBEs), with no fiscal appropriation.

### OVERVIEW

Historically, small businesses, minority-owner or otherwise, have struggled with efficiently attaining: 1) access to State resources, and 2) access to State contracting opportunities. With Proposition 209, preferential procurement opportunities can be difficult and complicate to maneuver for MBEs.

In 2006, Governor Schwarzenegger signed [EO S-02-06](#), which generally directed all state agencies, departments, boards, and commissions to achieve a minimum goal of 25% for small business participation in state procurements and contracts. While this EO remains on the books, the "enforcement" and accountability requirement of this EO is lax at best, and certainly not as robust as provision number "3" in the EO dictates. Additionally, there is no mention of MBEs or any minority business-ownership set aside in this action. The overall 25% contracting directive is an understood "goal", but it is not codified in statute.

In 2017, [AB 657 \(Cunningham\)](#), was signed into law by Gov. Brown. This bill, among other things, initiated steps to: ensure that a "small business liaison/advocate" for each agency that regularly interacts with small businesses, be established and, some of the responsibilities of that position would be in "assisting the agency secretary, department director, or executive officer, as applicable, in ensuring that the procurement and contracting processes of the applicable entity are administered in order to meet or exceed the 25 percent small business participation goal, and developing and sharing innovative procurement and contracting practices from the public and private sectors to increase opportunities for small businesses." This 25% goal is referring to the executive order of 2006.

AB 657 also established a more formal line of communication expectation, between the Department of General Services (DGS) and the Office of the Small Business Advocate in GO-Biz. Ostensibly, DGS serves as the first point-of-contact for all small businesses looking to do business with the State.

Currently, "minority-owned" (as well as "women-owned" and "LGBT-owned") certification is only available through the [CA Public Utilities Commission \(CPUC\)](#). Small Business (SB) and Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise (DVBE) certification [are available through DGS](#). All certifications are highly advantageous for business owners seeking to do business with the State of California. Having these certifications "reside" in an agency outside of DGS is confusing and potentially disenfranchising for a minority, LGBT, and/or women-owned business.

Additionally, in 2014, DGS established a ["SB/DVBE First Policy"](#), "to help DGS meet or exceed 25% SB and 3% DVBE" goals as referenced in EO S-02-06 and EO D-43-01, respectively.

Of the **231** State agencies, departments, boards, and commissions, [only 12 have adopted the SB/DBVE First Policy](#).

We would like to see the following changes take place:

- Codify EO S-02-06 and EO D-43-01 into law as a formal **"Economic Equity First"** policy, incorporating the language of DGS' "SB/DVBE First Policy" with an inclusion of MBEs, "women-owned", and "LGBT-owned" as a part of the 25% procurement goal for all State agencies, departments, boards, and commissions
  - Additionally, formalize "minority-owned" to be called "Minority Business Enterprises (MBEs)" for all State contracting language consideration, going forward
- [Direct DGS to either adopt](#) CPUC's women, minority, LGBT-owned certifications for State contract preferences, or to create their own certification for the prior mentioned categories
  - If DGS creates their own certification, CPUC will adopt DGS' to reduce redundancy and confusion for businesses
- Require every State agency, department, board, and commission to:
  - Adopt the "Economic Equity First", or commiserate policy within the first 12 months of the law being in affect
  - Direct the Office of the Small Business Advocate to:
    - Maintain the list of liaisons/advocates, verified for accuracy no less than every 12 months,
    - Ensure the list is accessible from the homepage GO-Biz and in the footer links of every page maintained by GO-Biz
    - Ensure that the respective small business advocates maintain open and consistent communication with GO-Biz
    - Report to the Legislature, annually, a collective summary report, consisting of a written summary from each small business advocate



# 11TH ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE SUMMIT & RECEPTION



The following is a proposal that we drafted and gained support of Assemblymember David Chiu at the onset of the current economic crisis. We are extremely grateful for his support, as well as being a champion for this issue, soliciting support of other members of the Legislature for issues that affect small businesses and MBEs. We are continuing to lobby for supplemental funding for the SB-TAEP, as it is providing critical service for businesses struggling to stay open and recover

# California Legislature



June 3, 2020

Assemblymember Jim Cooper  
Chair, Assembly Budget Subcommittee #4  
State Capitol, Room 6025  
Sacramento, CA 95814

## **Re: COVID-19 Recovery for Small Business and Minority Businesses**

Dear Chair Cooper:

We first want to acknowledge the Governor and the Administration for moving aggressively to both protect public health and to address COVID-19's staggering economic impact. Since over four million small businesses are facing an extraordinary economic disruption due to COVID-19, many of them micro-enterprises or sole proprietors representing the diversity of our state, we wanted to highlight some specific needs for the small business community.

### **Small Business Response**

Despite aggressive steps that the State has taken to minimize impacts on our economy due to California's stay-at-home orders, requests by small businesses for technical assistance have skyrocketed 500% year-over-year, according to local technical assistance providers. The resources being demanded of Small Business Development Centers (SBDC), Women's Business Centers (WBC), and Minority Business Development Agency Centers are overwhelming. For example:

- In March 2020, the San Diego SBDC network advised 980 businesses. In the first week of April 2020 alone, 511 businesses were advised with technical assistance.
- Since the COVID-19 crisis, the demand for services the WBCs has increased from 300% to 500%. In the Bay Area, 22% of clients are African American, and the WBCs serving the region have seen an average increase in demand of 325%. In Oakland, WBCs saw a 400% increase in demand, with 67% of their clients who are Latina. The services requested across the board include loan packaging and alternative financing, navigating the Payroll Protection Plan, business labor law compliance consulting, and understanding local and regional laws for re-opening.
- In the May 10th *Small Business Pulse Survey*, administered by the United States Census, the results are stark: The overall outlook on the economy by California small business owners is bleakly negative at 89%, higher than the national average. 42% of California small business owners have experienced a supply chain disruption. 81% have sought out and requested assistance of some sort, with a majority of those requests related to PPP

and the Economic Injury Disaster Loan. More than 1/3 of California small business owners surveyed have missed a business-related payment.

- A survey completed by Small Business Majority in April paints an even darker picture: 44% of small businesses in California have already closed or plan to close within the next two months.

All of this shows a frightening economic situation for our state and clearly makes the case that small businesses are deeply struggling. If policies don't meet the moment for the small business bedrock of our communities, our economy may never fully recover. The data supports the necessity of technical assistance for small business owners.

During this unprecedented situation, we urge you to take additional steps in supporting our small businesses across the State, especially minority business enterprises (MBEs) that have been hit the hardest and will be the last to recover from the economic crisis. Specifically, we respectfully request consideration of the following:

- **Supplemental disaster appropriation funding of \$12 million**, for the purpose of enabling the immediate, statewide, need of no-cost advising, training, and support for small business disaster response, recovery, and resiliency through the Small Business Technical Assistance Program (SB-TAEP), which is administered by the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz) and authorized by the Legislature in FY 2017/18. This appropriation would enable all SB-TAEP providers to respond to the staggering influx of demands for technical assistance from small business owners, especially minority communities of color, rural, and other disenfranchised groups.
- **Budget trailer and legislative support for Minority Business Enterprises (MBEs):** The plight of minority business owners was precarious at best before COVID-19; now, the situation could not be more dire. The Legislature and the Governor must recognize and embed specific legislative language that would recognize, highlight, and incorporate MBEs into formal policy and budget deliberations as they relate to overall COVID-19 recovery, economic development, and small business retention for the State of California.
- **Tackling the digital divide.** The digital deserts in urban and rural communities predominantly affecting people of color have been worsened by the onset of COVID-19 and become another source of perpetual economic disenfranchisement. The Legislature and the Administration must make digital pathways a priority for all California small businesses.

### **MBEs are Essential for California**

This letter highlights the importance of minority business owners and MBEs to our statewide economy. MBEs, supplier diversity and procurement, and support of SB-TAEP all play critical roles in supporting an inclusive economy in which all California businesses grow and thrive together.

Please reach out to Erin Baum ([erin.baum@asm.ca.gov](mailto:erin.baum@asm.ca.gov)) if you have any questions. We appreciate your consideration of these requests.

Sincerely,



David Chiu, Assembly District 17



Kansen Chu, Assembly District 25



Ed Chau, Assembly District 49



Todd Gloria, Assembly District 78



Autumn Burke, Assembly District 62



Adrin Nazarian, Assembly District 46



Richard Pan, Senate District 6



Ash Kalra, Assembly District 27



Rob Bonta, Assembly District 18

Cc: Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon  
Assemblymember Phil Ting, Budget Chair  
Acting Director Chris Dombrowski, GO-Biz



## VIRTUAL LEGISLATIVE OFFICE VISIT PROTOCOL

We are especially grateful for the time the Members of the Legislature have given us, and for you making time to participate in these very important legislative visits. The Legislators want to hear from you. The following are some guidelines we ask for you to follow during our virtual legislative visit:

- **Be thoughtful.** Commend the right things which your legislator does. That's the way you'd like to be treated.
- **Be reasonable.** Recognize that there are legitimate differences of opinion. Never indulge in threats or recriminations.
- **Be realistic.** Remember that most controversial legislation is the result of compromise. Don't expect that everything will go your way, and don't be too critical when it doesn't.
- **Be accurate and factual.** If an issue goes against you, don't rush to blame the legislator for "failing to do what you wanted." Make certain you have the necessary information and do a good job of presenting your case.
- **Be understanding.** Put yourself in a legislator's place. Try to understand their problems, outlook and aims. Then you are more likely to help them understand your business and problems.
- **Be friendly and appreciative** of their time and attention.
- **Give credit where it is due.** If an issue goes the way you wanted, remember that your legislator deserves first credit. They have the vote, not you.
- **Learn to evaluate issues.** The introduction of a legislative bill doesn't mean that it will become law. Whether you're for it or against it, don't get excited about it until you learn the who, what and why of it.
- **Don't, don't, don't even hint** that you think certain bills, campaigns or politics in general are not worthwhile or may be dishonest.
- **Don't demand anything.** And don't be rude or threatening. There is always "the future," and in many cases a legislator may disagree with you on one issue and be supportive on another.
- **Don't be vague or deceptive**, righteous or long-winded, and please don't remind the legislator that you are a taxpayer, they definitely know it.
- **Don't be an extremist.** Remember, your legislator represents all of their constituents—those you consider liberal and those you consider conservative. Don't condemn a legislator just because he/she supports a piece of legislation that you think is too liberal or too conservative.
- **Don't be a busybody.** Legislators don't like to be pestered, scolded or preached to. Neither do you.
- **Be cooperative.** If your legislator makes a reasonable request, try to comply with it. You can help them by giving them the information they need. Don't back away for fear you are "getting into politics." verbatim.

## VIRTUAL LEGISLATIVE OFFICE VISIT SCHEDULE

The CalAsian Chamber of Commerce is excited to offer virtual Legislative Office Visits as part of the 11th Annual Legislative Summit.

Time	Legislative Office	How to Join
10:00 am – 10:20 am	<b>Senator Richard Pan</b> Staffer: Faith Lee  Email: <a href="mailto:Faith.Lee@sen.ca.gov">Faith.Lee@sen.ca.gov</a> Phone: 916-651-4006	Link to join: <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88085518921">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88085518921</a>  Passcode: 330868 Meeting ID: 880-8551-8921 Dial to join: +1-669-900-9128
10:30 am – 10:50 am	<b>Assemblymember Evan Low</b>  Email: <a href="mailto:mao.yang@asm.ca.gov">mao.yang@asm.ca.gov</a> Phone: 916-319-2028	Link to join: <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86272447293">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86272447293</a>  Passcode: 002192 Meeting ID: 862-7244-7293 Dial to join: +1-669-900-9128
11:40 am – 12:00 pm	<b>Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi</b> Staffer: Bryan Singh  Email: <a href="mailto:Bryan.Singh@asm.ca.gov">Bryan.Singh@asm.ca.gov</a> Phone: 916-319-2066	Link to join: <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87114617625">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87114617625</a>  Passcode: 189844 Meeting ID: 871-1461-7625 Dial to join: +1-669-900-9128
12:30 pm – 12:50 pm	<b>Assemblymember Kevin McCarty</b>  Email: <a href="mailto:Jessica.Lawrence@asm.ca.gov">Jessica.Lawrence@asm.ca.gov</a> Email: <a href="mailto:christine.miyashiro@asm.ca.gov">christine.miyashiro@asm.ca.gov</a>	Link to join: <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83538963048">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83538963048</a>  Passcode: 463624 Meeting ID: 835-3896-3048 Dial to join: +1-669-900-9128
1:30 pm - 1:50 pm	<b>Senator Robert M. Hertzberg</b> Staffer: Thomas Ly  Email: <a href="mailto:Thomas.Ly@sen.ca.gov">Thomas.Ly@sen.ca.gov</a> Phone: 916-651-4018	Link to join: <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82048045175">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82048045175</a>  Passcode: 146544 Meeting ID: 820-4804-5175 Dial to join: +1-669-900-9128

*We encourage you to join via Zoom Video Conference, but if you are unable to do so, you may also call in.*

## LEGISLATOR BIOGRAPHIES

### Senator Robert M. Hertzberg

*18th Senate District*

**Priorities:** Privacy, Bail Reform, Energy



Senate Majority Leader Robert Hertzberg was first elected to the California State Assembly in 1996. He then served as the 64<sup>th</sup> Speaker of the Assembly, unanimously elected in 2000 and 2002. For the next decade, Hertzberg worked as a clean energy entrepreneur, where he helped create one of the first solar companies in Los Angeles, and co-launched a company that produced solar panels for use around the world. In recognition of his efforts in Rwanda, he received the “World Bank Award for Lighting Africa,” and *Guardian Magazine* named him one of the “50 People Who Could Save the Planet.”

Hertzberg returned to government when he was elected to represent the San Fernando Valley in the California State Senate in 2014. Hertzberg’s environmental expertise and his penchant for problem solving have played a key role in his accomplishments in the Senate to date. Hertzberg has advanced environmental protection laws, championed clean water access, and passed legislation to prepare for droughts. From bail reform to data privacy, Hertzberg approaches every problem through a lens of governing for the next generation.



## Assemblymember Evan Low

*28th Assembly District*

**Priorities:** Tech, Optometry, LGBTQ-related issues



Evan Low was elected to the California State Assembly in November 2014 to represent District 28, which includes Los Gatos, Campbell, Cupertino, Monte Sereno, Saratoga, and areas of West San Jose. At the age of 31, Assemblymember Low became the youngest Asian American legislator to have been elected to the Assembly in state history. Assemblymember Low chairs the Business and Professions Committee as well as the California Legislative LGBT Caucus.

A Bay Area native, Low attended local public schools and earned degrees from De Anza Community College and San Jose State University. He went on to graduate from the Senior Executives in State and Local Government Program at Harvard University.

Evan Low's work within the community and deep knowledge of issues local residents faced led him to run for Campbell City Council in 2006, when he was just 23 years old.

In 2018, 16 of Evan Low's bills were signed into law by Governor Brown, the most of any Assemblymember. Assemblymember Low has introduced legislation to protect the LGBTQ community, tackle the housing crisis, increase voter participation in elections, and strengthen consumer protections.



# 11TH ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE SUMMIT & RECEPTION



## Assemblymember Kevin McCarty

*7th Assembly District*

**Priorities:** Education (Pre K-12), Cannabis, and all current police brutality and social justice issues



Kevin McCarty was elected to the California State Assembly in 2014 to represent the 7th Assembly District, which includes Sacramento, West Sacramento and parts of unincorporated Sacramento County. McCarty is the Chair of the Assembly Budget Subcommittee on Education Finance, which oversees the largest component of California's multi-billion dollar budget. Over the last five years, McCarty has made historic investments in public education—from Pre-K to K-12 to higher education.

Other legislative priorities for Assemblymember McCarty include addressing housing affordability, fighting climate change, championing criminal justice reform, curbing gun violence, tackling the opioid crisis and advocating for the middle class. A lifelong Sacramentan, McCarty began his public service career as a Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Commissioner and served on the Sacramento City Council from 2004 to 2014. McCarty went to local public schools, attended American River College, and earned a B.A. in Political Science from CSU Long Beach and an M.A. in Public Policy and Administration from CSU Sacramento. McCarty and his wife live in the Elmhurst neighborhood of Sacramento with their twin daughters.

Like, follow, and connect with Assemblymember McCarty on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram:  
[@AsmKevinMcCarty](#)

## Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi

*66th Assembly District*

**Priorities:** Education (Pre K-12), Cannabis, and all current police brutality and social justice issues



Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi (D-Torrance) represents California's 66th Assembly District, located in the South Bay of Los Angeles County. He is a former prosecutor and Deputy Attorney General with the California Department of Justice and a former Torrance School Board member.

As a state legislator, Muratsuchi is fighting for the South Bay and the California Dream. His priorities are jobs, education, public safety, the environment, and veterans. As a father and husband, Muratsuchi is fighting to keep the South Bay a special place to live and raise a family.

The 66th Assembly District that the Assemblymember represents includes El Camino Village, Gardena, Hermosa Beach, Lomita, the Los Angeles neighborhoods of Harbor City and Harbor Gateway, Manhattan Beach, Palos Verdes Estates, Rancho Palos Verdes, Redondo Beach, Rolling Hills, Rolling Hills Estates, Torrance, and West Carson.

## Senator Richard Pan, MD

*Senate District 6*

**Priorities:** Healthcare, Mental Health and Privacy



Dr. Richard Pan is a pediatrician, former UC Davis educator, and State Senator proudly representing Sacramento, West Sacramento, Elk Grove and unincorporated areas of Sacramento County. Dr. Pan chairs the Senate Committee on Health and the Budget and Fiscal Review Subcommittee on Health and Human Services. He also chairs the Senate Select Committee on the 2020 United States Census and serves as Chair of the Senate Select Committee on Asian Pacific Islander Affairs. He serves on the Senate Committees on Budget and Fiscal Review; Education, Business, Professions and Economic Development; Human Services; Labor; Public Employment and Retirement.

First elected to the State Assembly in 2010, Dr. Pan strives to keep our communities safe and healthy. When local governments planned to close fire stations during the recession, Dr. Pan authored legislation to bring over \$100 million in federal funds for fire departments including \$6 million for the Sacramento region. He partnered with law enforcement and local businesses to establish a statewide database to catch thieves attempting to sell stolen property to pawnshops, and he authored legislation to allow campus police to use body cameras.

Dr. Pan has devoted his career to solving problems and helping everyone in the community. Prior to serving in the legislature, Dr. Pan was a UC Davis faculty member and Director of the Pediatric Residency Program where he created a nationally recognized service learning curriculum, Communities and Health Professionals Together to build partnerships between health professions students and neighborhoods to build healthier communities.



## ZOOM: WHAT TO EXPECT

The virtual Legislative Office Visits will be facilitated through the Zoom Meetings platform. Here is what you can expect when you log on to your meeting:

- **Enter your password.** For your security, each meeting requires a unique password to access it. Refer to your calendar invitation or your briefing if you have lost track of it.
- **You will be muted upon entry.** In order to avoid unnecessarily loud entries, everyone will be muted upon accessing the meeting. You will be able to unmute yourself during the appropriate time in the meeting.
- **Your camera will be activated.** If you do not want to have your camera on, you will have the option to turn it off.

## ZOOM ETTIQUETTE

Since the onset of the pandemic and the stay-at-home orders following it, virtual meetings have become increasingly necessary to convene with others. Take note of the best practices for your Zoom meetings:

- **Be mindful of your camera and audio.** Make sure to keep your audio muted by default if you are not speaking. In the same vein, turn off your camera if you need to do anything that you do not want others to see (ie. Change locations, take a call, etc)
- **Look your best!** Not only does dressing well go a long way, but finding a well-lit spot (ex. near a light, in front of a window) in your office or home will make a difference in how you will be seen during the meeting.
- **Find a quiet place.** We understand that most of you will be taking this meeting from home and that we sometimes cannot control our surroundings, so do your best to combat this by finding the quietest place wherever you are.
- **Avoid multi-tasking.** Out of respect for those in the meeting and of the legislator you are meeting with, make sure to be present and take the opportunity to fully participate with everyone.

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