

## ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP LEGISLATION

(JULY 17, 2019)

### ■ *EMBRACING GLOBAL LEADERSHIP ON INTEGRAL ECOLOGY*

- ✦ **SR 37** (Enacted July 16, 2015) **Papal Encyclical Resolution**. The CCC sponsored as well as supported SR 37 which resolved that the Legislature to review and take into account, the Papal Encyclical, *Laudato Si'*, teachings on climate change in relevant legislative action. It further resolved that the Governor and executive branch of state government consider implications of the Papal encyclical and climate change in their policy and fiscal actions to prevent further environmental degradation. Appropriate legislative policy committees of the Legislature were also resolved to convene hearings to consider policy implications of the Papal encyclical and seek testimony from religious leaders, state officials, environmental organizations, business groups, and the public.
- ✦ **AJR 20** (Enacted September 19, 2017) **Climate change**. The CCC supported AJR 20 that declared that California will continue to lead in its efforts to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases and fight global climate change and would encourage other state legislatures and cities in the nation to continue to support and follow the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Paris Agreement. This measure further requested that the United Nations create a category for the recognition and participation of subnational jurisdictions whose parent countries are not part of or have withdrawn from the Paris Climate Agreement.
- ✦ **SB 1 (Current 2019-20 Legislation) California Environmental, Public Health, and Workers Defense Act of 2019**. The CCC is supporting SB 1 that makes sure vital environmental state standards stay in place, even if the federal government rolls related policies back. Furthermore, specific minimum federal environmental standards would be established as state baselines for environmental protection in the event the Congress or President repeals or weakens corresponding federal standards. In addition, it prohibits the corresponding California standards from falling below those baselines. Under SB 1 the state would monitor any rollbacks in federal policy, and quickly take necessary action to ensure that state standards remain at least as protective as those that existed prior to such action.
- ✦ **SB 54/AB 1080 (Current 2019-20 Legislation) California Circular Economy and Plastic Pollution Reduction Act**. The CCC is supporting SB 54/AB 1080 that ensures California is on the forefront of reducing pollution from single-use packaging and products that will help achieve our state's climate and waste diversion commitments. This bill establishes a comprehensive framework that requires manufacturers and retailers to reduce the plastic waste generated by single-use packaging and products by producing less plastic, recycling more of it, making reusable packaging, or using compostable materials. Under SB 54, guidelines for manufacturers would also be set of single-use plastic packaging and products that would ensure that 20% of their products are recycled by 2024, 40% by 2028, and 75% by 2030.

### ■ *IMPROVING AIR QUALITY & COMBATTING CLIMATE CHANGE*

- ✦ **SB 350** (Enacted October 7, 2015) **Clean Energy and Pollution Reduction Act of 2015**. The CCC supported SB 350 that established two clean-energy targets to be achieved by 2030: (1) Increase from one-third to 50 percent retail sales of electricity derived from renewable sources; and (2) Double the energy efficiency of existing buildings.

July 17, 2019

California Catholic Conference

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP LEGISLATION

---

- ✦ **SB 32** (Enacted September 8, 2016) **California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006: emissions limit.** As a supporter of AB 32 in 2006, the CCC supported SB 32. This measure set an enforceable greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction target of 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050. This measure also incorporated the Governor’s midterm target, (to reduce climate pollution to 40 percent by 2030) to ensure that the state achieves our 2050 goals through the most cost-effective pathway available. Additionally this measure integrates complimentary policies such as standards for renewable power, energy efficiency in buildings, and petroleum reductions.
- ✦ **SB 1383** (Enacted September 19, 2016) **Short-lived Climate Pollutants.** The CCC supported SB 1383 that requires the State Air Resources Board, no later than January 1, 2018, to approve and begin implementing that comprehensive strategy to reduce emissions of short-lived climate pollutants to achieve a reduction in methane by 40%, hydrofluorocarbon gases by 40%, and anthropogenic black carbon by 50% below 2013 levels by 2030.
- ✦ **SB 100** (Enacted September 10, 2018) **California Renewables Portfolio Standard Program: emissions of greenhouse gases.** As we supported SB 350 in 2015, the CCC supported SB 100 that establishes the 100 Percent Clean Energy Act of 2017. Under this act the Renewables Portfolio Standard requirement would be accelerated from 50% to 60% by 2030. Furthermore, this bill would require retail sellers of electricity to develop plans for the achievement of an additional 40% clean, zero carbon, and renewable energy target by 2045; for a total of 100 percent clean energy.
- ✦ **SB 210 (Current 2019-20 Legislation) Heavy-Duty Vehicle Inspection and Maintenance Program.** The CCC is supporting SB 210 that directs the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to create “smog check” requirements for heavy-duty non-gasoline trucks by modernizing emissions control enforcement through a comprehensive inspection and maintenance program. Over the next decade, SB 210 will assist in the removal of 1,600 tons of harmful particulate matter, equivalent to taking 375,000 trucks off the roads in California.
- ✦ **SB 386 (Current 2019-20 Legislation) California Renewables Portfolio Standard Program: irrigation districts.** The CCC is opposing SB 386 that undermines progress towards achieving 100% clean electricity generation by 2045, a goal that was affirmed by enacting SB 100. This bill would allow large-scale hydropower generation to count toward the Renewable Portfolio Standard goal of 60 %of non-carbon and renewable electricity generation by 2030. SB 386 would undercut the incentive to invest in new, renewable energy sources and set a bad precedent for others to seek similar exemptions.

■ **ASSURING PLENTIFUL SUPPLY OF CLEAN, AFFORDABLE WATER**

- ✦ **AB 401** (Enacted October 9, 2015) **Low-Income Water Rate Assistance Program.** The CCC supported AB 401 that requires the State Water Resources Control Board, in collaboration with the State Board of Equalization, to develop a statewide plan for funding and implementing a program to provide funding assistance for water service to households with less than 200 percent of the federal poverty line.
- ✦ **SB 1262** (Enacted September 24, 2016) **Water Supply Planning.** The CCC supported SB 1262 that revised requirements that new developments must meet in order to demonstrate that its water supply are sufficient to include consideration of provisions of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). SB 1262 updated statutes to integrate groundwater sustainability agencies and considerations into water supply and land use planning.

July 17, 2019

California Catholic Conference

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP LEGISLATION

---

- ✦ **SB 552** (Enacted September 28, 2016) **Public Water Systems: Disadvantaged Communities: Consolidation or Extension of Service.** The CCC supported SB 552 that provides state authority for water systems that consistently fail to provide an adequate supply of safe drinking water to be responsibly consolidated with a public water systems that can remedy that failure. SB 552 also adds a new tool that allows the State Water Resources Control Board to contract with a third party to provide administrative and managerial services to help a failing public water system in a disadvantaged community provide adequate and affordable water.
- ✦ **AB 638 (Current 2019-20 Legislation) Water storage: climate change impacts.** The CCC is supporting AB 638 that requires the Department of Water Resources (DWR) to identify water storage facilities vulnerable to threats from climate change and propose strategies to mitigate those threats. The bill requires DWR to examine all forms of storage from manmade reservoirs to naturally occurring storage like groundwater and snowpack.
- ✦ **SB 200 (Current 2019-20 Legislation) Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund.** The CCC is supporting SB 200 that would establish the Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund to help water systems provide an adequate and affordable supply of safe drinking water in both the near and the long term. Stable funding would be provided for small, rural and/or socioeconomically disadvantaged ratepayer bases who are typically are forced to bear the entire ongoing cost of drinking water treatment. Under budget agreement, \$100 million in cap-and-trade revenue, and \$30 million will come from general tax money, will be earmarked annually as a sustainable funding source for clean water through 2030.

■ **EDUCATING ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY**

- ✦ **SB 720** (Enacted September 13, 2018) **Environmental education: environmental principles and concepts.** The CCC supported SB 720 that integrated existing Environmental Principles and Concepts into California's elementary and secondary curriculum across multiple subject areas. In addition, the bill directs the Superintendent of Public Instruction to use available resources to further the goals of environmental literacy and justice. Access to environmental literacy is further strengthened by encouraging partnerships among educational agencies and community-based and nonprofit organizations.
- ✦ **AB 209 (Current 2019-20 Legislation) Parks: environmental education: grant program.** The CCC is supporting AB 209 that would foster good stewardship among underserved and at-risk youth by increasing their ability to engage in outdoor environmental education experiences at state parks and other public lands where these activities take place. Under this bill, both non-profit organizations and public agencies could receive support for program operations costs associated with connecting historically underserved communities with new or expanded outdoor experiences that develops an ethics of ecology future generations of Californians.
- ✦ **AB 556 (Current 2019-20 Legislation) Outdoor experiences: community access program: grant program.** The CCC is supporting AB 556 that would expand outdoor environmental education in natural lands for disadvantaged young Californians who have little to no access to such wonderful experiences. Under this bill, both non-profit organizations and public agencies could receive support for transportation services from schools and other locations in furtherance of providing new/expanded outdoor experiences. In so doing, AB 556 reverses a "nature deficit disorder" by enabling reliable and available transportation to connect low-income youth to otherwise unrealized or under-experienced outdoor opportunities.

▪ ***SAFEGUARDING ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH OF COMMUNITIES***

- ✦ **AB 1071** (Enacted October 8, 2015) **Supplemental environmental projects.** The CCC supported AB 1071 that requires each board, department, and office within the California Environmental Protection Agency that has enforcement authority to establish a specified policy on supplemental environmental projects that benefits disadvantaged communities. Under this law state agencies are enabled to make better use of existing tools designed to help neighborhoods address the impacts of pollution, ensuring that the environmental health benefits reach the people who are impacted the most. This measure strengthened supplemental environmental projects that improve, protect, or reduce risks to, the environment and public health of disadvantaged communities.
- ✦ **AB 1062** (Died in Second House July 1, 2016) **Environmental Justice Small Grant Program.** The CCC supported AB 1062 that would have specified that physical projects that improve the environment or the environmental health of a community, or that address a specific environmental justice need, would have to qualify under the Environmental Justice Small Grant Program. Grants awarded would have incorporated physical projects such as: planning, engineering and construction, monitoring or filtering technology, and environmental assessments that improve the environment or the environmental health of the community.
- ✦ **AB 2781** (Died in Second House August 8, 2016) **Supplemental Environmental Projects.** The CCC supported AB 2781 that would have secured resources that benefit disadvantaged communities that help decrease many of the environmental stressors affecting disadvantaged communities. This bill would have included a requirement that 10% of an enforcement action monetary penalty be deposited in the Supplemental Environmental Projects in the Disadvantaged Communities Fund, which would be created by the bill.
- ✦ **AB 1628 (Current 2019-20 Legislation)** **Environmental justice.** The CCC is supporting AB 1628 that would state the intent of the Legislature to secure resources to protect vulnerable communities from environmental hazards and adds “meaningful involvement” to the definition of environmental justice to ensure all voices are heard. In addition, it requires that the Attorney General and the Bureau of Environmental Justice be consulted in matters affecting communities on the frontlines of the pollution battle, particularly as it relates to CEQA, contaminated drinking water, exposure to lead, illegal discharges to air and water, as well as federal actions impacting the health and environment. This will improve oversight, investigation, and enforcement of the law.

---

**For more information, please contact:**  
Raymond Burnell, Director of Environmental Stewardship  
at (916) 313-4013 or by e-mail ([rburnell@cacatholic.org](mailto:rburnell@cacatholic.org))