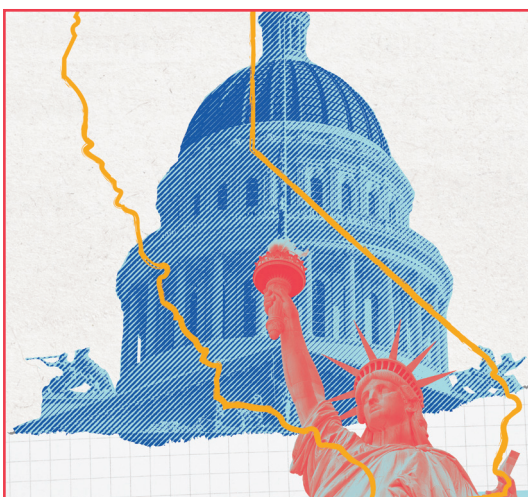


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THE WAY FORWARD IN TRUMP'S DESTRUCTIVE AFTERMATH

BY SARAH HOPKINS

How can we repair the damage wrought by the Trump Administration? What does restorative justice look like for the communities it harmed? How do we fight for civil rights when courts have erected barriers to the enjoyment of these rights?

Although we find ourselves with a new president who swiftly signed executive actions aimed at repealing some of the previous administration's most egregious policies, the destruction left behind—to institutions, communities, individual human lives—is so profound that executive action alone cannot fix it.

The Trump Administration's targeting of immigrant communities stands as a prime example of this lasting trauma. While several of Biden's executive actions rolled back brutal immigration policies, including the Muslim and African "travel" bans, those reversals are not enough to repair the long-standing harms of the immigration system. The federal government retains incredible discretionary power to abuse the fundamental rights of immigrant communities, and the priorities that the Trump Administration

imposed upon federal immigration agencies have made them even more prone to abuses of power.

"We've shifted our advocacy strategies under Biden because we no longer expect to have to rush to court to challenge executive orders like the Muslim ban, as we did under Trump," says Vasudha Talla, immigrants' rights program director at the ACLU Foundation of Northern California. "We do expect to have to litigate. Sadly, that's because we expect the abuses of immigration agencies to continue."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

IN MEMORIAM: LAWRENCE FERLINGHETTI, 1919-2021

In February, we bid farewell to Lawrence Ferlinghetti, former poet laureate of San Francisco, owner of the fabled *City Lights* bookstore, and fearless defender of the First Amendment.

In 1957, he partnered with the ACLU of Northern California to defend freedom of expression after he was arrested and prosecuted for publishing Allen Ginsberg's *Howl and Other Poems*. Ferlinghetti continued to partner with us to challenge censorship in subsequent decades. In a 2007 manifesto he wrote, "*Paper may burn but words will escape*"—a sentiment that he embodied as a protector of artists, and as an artist himself. We remain forever grateful for his partnership and support.



PHOTO BY RICK ROCAMORA

READ MORE IN OUR NEWSLETTER ARCHIVES AT
WWW.ACLUNC.ORG/CHS

THANK YOU FOR GENEROUSLY SUPPORTING THE ACLU AND FOR TAKING ACTION.

LEGAL AND POLICY UPDATES

BY BRADY HIRSCH

PALO ALTO’S FOOTHILLS PARK NOW OPEN FOR ALL

On Sep. 15, 2020, the ACLU Foundation of Northern California and the firm Munger, Tolles & Olson LLP filed a suit to compel Palo Alto to end the residents-only restrictions placed on Foothills Park, a 1,400-acre public green space located within city limits. The suit was brought on behalf of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People of San Jose/Silicon Valley (NAACP) and 10 individual plaintiffs who are residents of Palo Alto, East Palo Alto, Menlo Park, and neighboring communities throughout Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties.

For decades, the city had kept the park exclusive to Palo Alto residents under an ordinance that threatened non-residents who entered the park with jail time and a hefty fine unless they entered as guests. By the city’s own admission, Foothills Park was the only residents-exclusive park in California.

This exclusionary policy was a vestige of a documented history of racial discrimination. Well into the middle of the 20th century, government agencies, lending institutions, realtors’ associations, and private individuals colluded to prevent Black Americans from residing or purchasing homes in Palo Alto. As a consequence of this discrimination, just 1.6 percent of residents in Palo Alto today are Black, a far lower proportion than in neighboring communities.

Hundreds of community members rallied in support of ending the restrictions. Palo Alto settled the lawsuit by agreeing to a permanent injunction against the exclusion of non-residents, and on Dec. 17, 2020, Palo Alto opened the park, ending its 55-year history of keeping the public land exclusive to city residents. This beautiful Bay Area gem is now accessible to all, regardless of race, income level, or where they reside.

ACLU TAKES ON UNCONSTITUTIONAL RV BANS

As the economic strain of the pandemic worsens California’s existing housing crisis, many people who have been forced out of their homes have turned to RVs to keep a roof over their heads. For some, moving into an RV means the ability to stay in the community they call home, the place they work, the place their kids attend school, and the place they receive the resources they depend on for connection and community.

Unfortunately, people who live in RVs experience intense and unrelenting harassment, often from their housed neighbors. Cities and police departments, spurred on by housed residents who don’t like seeing RVs parked in their neighborhoods, have launched campaigns with the implicit goal of driving RV dwellers out of town. Fine upon fine is heaped upon those who stay, burying them in debt that they cannot afford, which only makes their housing situation worse. Police are called when their toddlers cry. Street signage is inconsistent and impossible to decipher, but the threat of being towed is clear and hangs constantly over people’s head.

In particular, Pacifica has passed an ordinance that essentially bans RVs from parking within municipal limits. The city claims that it is not a complete ban, but in reality, there is no place people can park without being ticketed. Without feasible parking solutions, people in RVs have nowhere to go.


The ACLU Foundation of Northern California, Legal Aid Society of San Mateo County, and Disability Rights Advocates are challenging the ban. We are arguing that it is unconstitutional to outlaw the only shelter that people have without providing them with a safe alternative. Cities and towns can’t address the housing crisis by banishing those most affected from their jurisdictions.

VALLEJO RESIDENTS FIGHT POLICE SURVEILLANCE

The Vallejo City Police Department is one of the most deadly and abusive in California. In the past twenty years, they have shot and killed dozens of people. Recently, police killed 20-year-old Willie McCoy, a Black man who officers shot as he slept inside his car, and 22-year-old Sean Monterrosa, who was shot last June while on his knees with his hands up. Recent reporting has revealed credible allegations that members of the police force engaged in a secret badge-bending ritual to celebrate when officers took someone’s life.

The ACLU began organizing in Vallejo last fall. The community was inspired by the national movement for Black Lives and looking for ways to put the police department back under community control. Surveillance became one area of community focus, after it was revealed that the police department illegally purchased a cellular-site simulator (also known as a stingray)—a notorious and powerful technology that would enable further abuse. Our partners at Oakland Privacy filed a lawsuit and looped us in to help residents spread the word about what was happening.

With the ACLU’s help, the community mobilized. We connected with over 80 Vallejo residents, many of whom had no idea that VPD was using this technology against them. At the very next City Council meeting, when the stingray was up on the agenda, residents showed up to give public comment after comment. We also helped generate over 400 emails to the city council. Under pressure, the council voted to break with the police and give the community full power to write the rules to govern how the technology can be used.

Energized by this victory, the activists have doubled down. We are now working with them to bring all city surveillance technology under community review. 

Brady Hirsch is an associate communications strategist at the ACLU of Northern California.

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AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

IN MEMORIAM

BY ELAINE ELINSON

The ACLU of Northern California mourns the loss of two activists who led the organization for many decades. “Marlene De Lancie and Howard Lewis represented the kind of grassroots activists who are essential to the building of the ACLU NorCal,” said Executive Director Abdi Soltani. “Their wisdom, generosity and deep commitment to justice were a great gift to this organization. Though their passing marks the end of an era, their legacy will impact the ACLU for a very long time to come.”



PHOTO BY MICHAEL WOOLSEY

who worked closely with De Lancie for more than two decades, remembered how dogged De Lancie was in meeting campaign goals: “No amount was too small for her to solicit and she never gave up on a promising volunteer prospect,” Holmes recalled. “We covered many miles of the affiliate’s geography, from Monterey to Mendocino. Marlene had incredible stamina and was incredibly kind and thoughtful.”

De Lancie volunteered to become the named taxpayer plaintiff in the successful ACLU NorCal lawsuit, *De Lancie v. Superior Court*, in which the California Supreme Court in 1982 upheld the right of pretrial jail detainees to have private conversations, without surveillance by jail officials.

The tireless De Lancie was active in the League of Women Voters, served on the board of the county Planned Parenthood Association, and was a strong supporter of Music at Kohl Mansion. In honor of her social justice work, the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors inducted De Lancie into the Women’s Hall of Fame.

MARLENE DE LANCIE

“Arriving here as an immigrant, I truly believed in the principles of democracy, but I soon learned the reality and the ideals of a democracy are divergent. I realized that the Constitution has no better advocate or defender than the ACLU, and I became a volunteer.”

These were the inspiring words of Marlene De Lancie, when she was honored with the Lola Hanzel Courageous Advocacy Award in 1997.

De Lancie, a longtime ACLU NorCal board member and chapter leader, died in October at age 98 in her San Mateo home.

Born in Germany, De Lancie and her family were forced to flee in 1936 after the Nazis took power and stripped her father of his hospital position because he was a Jew.

The 14-year-old refugee excelled in the then male-dominated field of Life Sciences. After a successful career in scientific research, including a PhD in Biochemistry and 18 journal publications, De Lancie decided she could do more for social justice in community organizing than in academia. She helped desegregate the San Mateo public schools and supported the election of the first African-American to the San Mateo school board.

A founder of the North Peninsula Chapter of the ACLU NorCal, De Lancie led campaigns for reproductive rights and against the death penalty, as well as serving on the ACLU NorCal board. As chair of the Bill of Rights Campaign, she created a powerful fundraising vehicle for chapter activists. Former Membership Coordinator Sandy Holmes,

HOWARD LEWIS



When ACLU NorCal chapter leader Howard Lewis was honored with the Lola Hanzel Courageous Advocacy Award in 1994, he was applauded for “doing the right thing in the most unpredictable times.” His righteous acts spanned many difficult times,


but Lewis never faltered in the fight for fair housing and racial justice. Lewis passed away in July at the age of 92.

In 1953, during the Army-McCarthy hearings, when progressives of all stripes were being hounded and red baited in a national witchhunt, Lewis, a successful real estate broker with a degree from Stanford, joined the ACLU.

Ten years later, when he was the director of the California Association of Realtors, Lewis was the only officer at the annual convention to vote against the Association’s sponsorship of the racist Proposition 14, a ballot initiative

creating a state constitutional amendment to repeal all fair housing laws and prohibit the state legislature from ever passing laws related to housing discrimination. The proposition would lock into place racial discrimination in housing in the state. Lewis remembered getting the cold shoulder from fellow delegates after the convention vote. But undeterred, Lewis sprung into action alongside the ACLU and other coalition partners. He became strategy coordinator for Californians Against Proposition 14 and worked tirelessly to defeat the measure. Sadly, in November 1964, the electorate passed Proposition 14 two to one. But Lewis, the iconoclastic businessman went on to serve as a consultant to the President’s Committee for Equal Opportunity in Housing. When the U.S. Supreme Court eventually struck down Proposition 14 as unconstitutional, in a case the ACLU helped bring, Lewis was vindicated.

Lewis joined the Mid-Peninsula Chapter of the ACLU NorCal and served as an officer from 1986 to 1993, recruiting many new members and leading fundraising campaigns. Lewis and his wife Jane warmly welcomed ACLU NorCal staff members to their home for an annual barbecue.

Former Field Director Marcia Gallo called Lewis a consistent and effective leader, both for the chapter and on the ACLU NorCal board. “I remember him as a reliable ally on local, statewide, and national organizing campaigns ranging from reproductive justice and the right to dissent to immigrant and refugee rights,” Gallo said. 

Elaine Elinson is a former communications director at the ACLU of Northern California.

We invite ACLU members who knew Howard or Marlene, or who are inspired by their stories, to join us for a virtual memorial Thursday, April 29 at 4:30 p.m.

For more information, please email memorial@aclunc.org

ACLU CALIFORNIA ACTION 2021 SPONSORED BILLS

BY JANINE SHIMOMURA

In addition to supporting and opposing hundreds of bills, each year the ACLU sponsors legislation that we believe is especially important to promote and protect civil liberties in California—typically in collaboration with community-based organizations and other advocates representing impacted groups. This year we begin our legislative campaigns under a new banner—ACLU California Action.

Sponsorship means that we take a leading role in seeking passage of the bill, starting with drafting the language of the proposal and providing significant resources for advocacy, as well as providing communications and organizing support. This year, we’re focusing on the following bills, in addition to our continuing advocacy on the state’s response to COVID-19. We encourage ACLU supporters to get involved in the legislative process; you can find the latest ways to take action at www.aclucaaction.org.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

AB 256 (KALRA): RACIAL JUSTICE ACT EXTENSION

This bill would extend last year’s historic Racial Justice Act by applying it retroactively to cases in which judgment was entered prior to Jan. 1, 2021—thereby prohibiting the state from seeking a criminal conviction or sentence on the basis of race, ethnicity, or national origin; allowing defendants to petition for relief from a violation of that prohibition; and authorizing courts to impose specified remedies, including, among other things, modifying the judgment and resentencing the defendant.

SB 493 (BRADFORD): JUVENILE JUSTICE PROGRAM FUNDING—PROMYSE (PROMOTING YOUTH SUCCESS AND EMPOWERMENT) ACT

The PROMYSE Act will require at least 95 percent of Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA) funds to go to community-based organizations or non-law enforcement agencies. It will also increase community representation on the county Juvenile Justice Coordinating Councils that determine how the money is spent, and will improve oversight by requiring counties to report on the effectiveness of programs funded with JJCPA dollars.

ECONOMIC AND RACIAL JUSTICE

SB 586 (BRADFORD): CRIMINAL FEE ELIMINATION

This bill is a follow up to last year’s AB 1869 Families over Fees Act. SB 586 would eliminate over 60 remaining burdensome fees that can still be charged to millions of Californians who come into contact with our criminal legal system each year.

FREE SPEECH/DEMOCRACY/CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

AB 339 (LEE): ACCESS TO PUBLIC MEETINGS

This measure would provide greater public access to meetings of local agencies and governing bodies, as well as the state legislature, by promoting the use of telecommunications technology to allow remote participation and increased language access for the millions of Californians whose primary language is not English.

EDUCATION EQUITY

AB 610 (KALRA): ELIMINATING STATE MANDATED SCHOOL NOTIFICATIONS TO POLICE

California law currently mandates that schools notify law enforcement of a wide range of types of incidents occurring at school. This bill would repeal some of these mandates and the misdemeanor penalties, allowing school administrators and employees to determine when an event would be better handled without the involvement of law enforcement.

AB 945 (RAMOS): TRIBAL REGALIA

Despite legal and legislative achievements clarifying the right of students to wear religious and cultural regalia at graduation ceremonies, Native American students, families, and Tribal authorities report that some school districts continue to prevent students from exercising their rights. This bill will create a statewide task force to address this issue and promote better compliance by school districts.

AB 599 (JONES-SAWYER): SCHOOL INSPECTION FACTORS

This measure updates statutory provisions implementing the landmark Williams litigation settlement, which protects California students’ rights to attend schools with adequate facilities and learning materials, and appropriately credentialed teachers.

REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE & GENDER EQUITY, AND LGBTQ RIGHTS

AB 367 (C. GARCIA): MENSTRUAL EQUITY IN SCHOOLS AND PUBLIC BUILDINGS

This measure would ensure menstrual equity and greater access to menstrual products by expanding on existing law so that all schools maintaining grades 6-12, California State University and community colleges, and state/local municipal buildings would stock their public restrooms with free menstrual products. It also encourages UCs and private colleges and universities to do the same.

SB 225 (WIENER): INTERSEX SURGERIES BILL

This bill prohibits certain genital surgeries on infants and children under the age of 12 who are born with variations in their physical sex characteristics, unless the procedure is required to address an immediate risk of physical harm.

SB 357 (WIENER): LOITERING WITH INTENT TO SOLICIT

This bill would decriminalize the crime of loitering with intent to engage in prostitution, following up on a recent New York law that did the same. Enforcement of this criminal statute typically relies on stereotyped notions of gender and race to determine who has a purpose of engaging in sex work that results in the legal harassment of LGTBQ+, Black, and Brown communities for simply existing and looking like a “sex worker” to law enforcement.

SB 379 (WIENER): PREVENTS RESTRICTION OF HEALTH CARE PROVIDED BY UC

This bill ensures that the University of California provides patients with comprehensive reproductive and LGBTQ-inclusive healthcare services by prohibiting UC from entering into any contract with a health facility that limits the services UC doctors or medical students are able to provide patients due to non-clinical, harmful restrictions on care.

IMMIGRANTS’ RIGHTS

AB 1259 (CHIU): POST-CUSTODIAL RELIEF IMMIGRATION CONSEQUENCES

Following up on prior ACLU-sponsored bills that created a process for individuals to erase the catastrophic immigration consequences that can attach to even very old criminal convictions, this measure would close a remaining loophole by extending this post-conviction remedy to people who have legally defective jury trial convictions.

POLICE PRACTICES

AB 118 (KAMLAGER): CRISES ACT


This is a reintroduction of last year’s bill, which passed both houses of the legislature but was vetoed by the Governor. It would create a pilot grant program promoting community-based responses to emergency situations. Accompanying budget advocacy will request the necessary funding. The goal of this effort is to have community-centered emergency responses led by people specially trained in key areas, and prevent untrained or inadequately trained and provocative law enforcement officers from being first responders if there is no public safety concern.

SB 2 (BRADFORD): DECERTIFICATION OF OFFICERS AND REMEDIES FOR VICTIMS OF POLICE MISCONDUCT

This is a reintroduction of last year’s measure which failed passage in the legislature. This proposal would revoke a peace officer’s certification, thereby removing their ability to continue as a peace officer for specified wrongdoing. Nationwide, 45 states have some version of decertification authority. This measure would also provide relief to victims and their families by overturning bad state court interpretations of civil rights law and clarify that related federal precedent does not restrict claims for damages under state law.

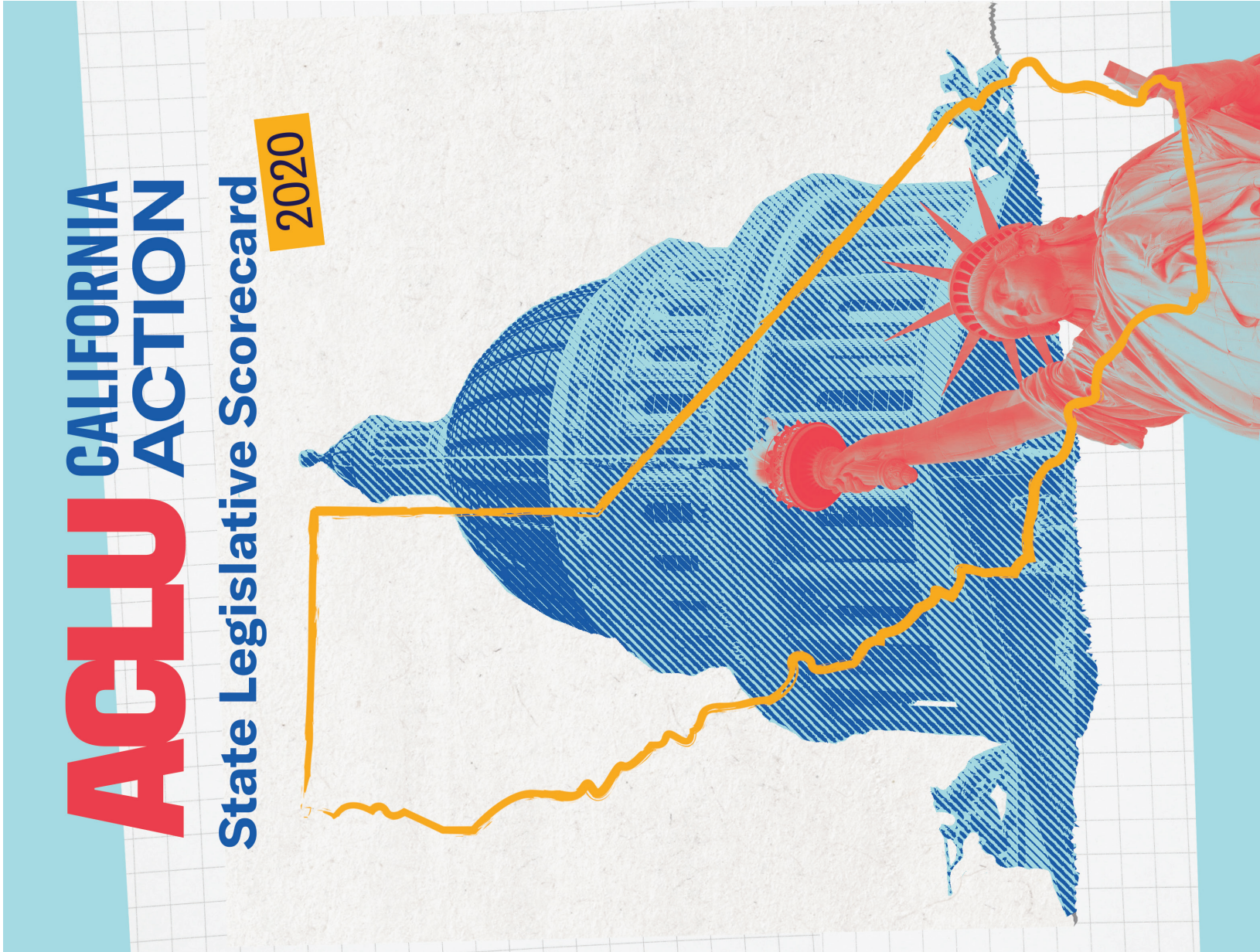
VOTING RIGHTS

AB 796 (BERMAN): VOTER REGISTRATION REFORM

Codifies provisions of our settlement agreement with the DMV that have facilitated a more efficient and accurate voter registration system, and increases transparency, accountability, and voter protections. 

Janine Shimomura is a communications strategist at ACLU California Action.

SPECIAL INSERT



This legislative scorecard was designed to show you where your state legislators stand on a variety of civil rights and civil liberties issues, ranging from criminal justice to voting rights.

You can use this scorecard to see whether your legislators support your values. Give them feedback on their votes over the 2019-2020 session. Direct communication with your legislators is a valuable way to encourage them to fight for our rights and freedoms.

Methodology: How Scoring Works

This scorecard reflects whether legislators voted with us or against us on eight key issue areas in committees and floor votes in the 2019-2020 session.

There were 188 bills scored in the Assembly, and 173 scored in the Senate. The numbers vary because some bills that were voted on in one house did not receive a vote in the other house. Some bills were counted in more than one issue area.¹

A failure to vote on a bill attributable to an absence, as verified by the official record, is not counted against a member. Abstentions are counted because they represent an intentional decision not to vote on a bill, which effectively counts as a vote against the bill because passage of legislation requires a majority of “yes” votes.

In addition to reporting scores on eight separate issue areas, we also report an overall score that takes into account our position on all bills we support or oppose, adjusted by some key additional variables.




To better reflect the extent of alignment, we adjust the overall score slightly upwards or downwards if the legislator:



- ⬆ Voted with us on all the bills we sponsored
- ⬆ Voted with us on all the bills we supported
- ⬆ Voted with us on bills we opposed
- ⬆ Voted with us on controversial bills where the vote is close to 50%
- ⬆ Authored or co-authored a bill we sponsored
- ⬇ Authored or co-authored a bill we opposed
- ⬇ Urged others to vote against a bill we sponsored on the final vote


For more information on our eight issue areas, visit our website at www.acluaction.org.

¹ For the Assembly, the number of scored bills in each issue area is as follows: Criminal Justice: 79, Economic Justice 28, Education Equity: 14, Immigrants’ Rights: 14, LGBTQI: 16, Reproductive Justice & Gender Equity: 14, Privacy & Technology: 20, Voting Rights: 21. For the Senate, the number of scored bills in each issue area is as follows: Criminal Justice: 61, Economic Justice: 32, Education Equity: 16, Immigrants’ Rights: 14, LGBTQI: 21, Reproductive Justice & Gender Equity: 14, Privacy & Technology: 16, Voting Rights: 19.

ACLU California Action 2020 State Legislative Scorecard ASSEMBLY

Member Last Name	Overall Score*	Criminal Justice	Economic Justice	Education Equity	Immigrant Rights	LGBTQI	Repro Justice & Gender Equity	Privacy & Tech	Voting Rights
Aguilar-Curry (D)	82%	67%	80%	100%	92%	100%	100%	50%	95%
Arambula (D)	75%	70%	77%	90%	100%	100%	100%	40%	88%
Bauer-Kahan (D)	73%	65%	74%	100%	100%	100%	92%	38%	94%
Berman (D)	81%	68%	85%	100%	93%	94%	100%	32%	95%
Bigelow (R)	18%	14%	33%	45%	15%	27%	0%	11%	21%
Bloom (D)	82%	70%	85%	100%	100%	100%	100%	44%	100%
Boerner Horvath (D)	60%	34%	56%	82%	85%	93%	100%	33%	83%
Bonta (D) 	100+%	81%	93%	100%	100%	100%	100%	56%	100%
Brough (R)	21%	15%	35%	36%	17%	23%	10%	24%	21%
Burke (D)	80%	69%	84%	100%	100%	100%	91%	41%	100%
Calderon (D)	75%	67%	85%	91%	100%	100%	100%	33%	100%
Carrillo (D) 	96%	71%	85%	100%	93%	94%	100%	37%	100%
Cervantes (D)	58%	37%	61%	91%	100%	87%	100%	33%	81%
Chau (D)	72%	67%	86%	100%	93%	88%	90%	47%	100%
Chen (R)	27%	10%	43%	64%	17%	47%	20%	6%	39%
Chiu (D) 	94%	70%	85%	100%	100%	100%	100%	33%	100%
Choi (R)	17%	13%	54%	45%	8%	27%	20%	17%	17%
Chu (D)	83%	69%	84%	100%	100%	100%	90%	44%	94%
Cooley (D)	55%	56%	53%	100%	78%	77%	75%	45%	64%
Cooper (D)	39%	17%	52%	82%	92%	60%	50%	33%	84%

Member Last Name	Overall Score*	Criminal Justice	Economic Justice	Education Equity	Immigrant Rights	LGBTQI	Repro Justice & Gender Equity	Privacy & Tech	Voting Rights
Cunningham (R)	32%	28%	48%	64%	46%	71%	30%	33%	31%
Dahle (R)	28%	16%	40%	100%	25%	0%	20%	29%	50%
Daly (D)	51%	56%	68%	82%	92%	87%	60%	33%	95%
Diep (R)	39%	29%	43%	55%	31%	60%	46%	26%	53%
Flora (R)	25%	15%	42%	45%	15%	27%	0%	6%	28%
Fong (R)	16%	20%	41%	45%	8%	27%	0%	17%	22%
Frazier (D)	47%	24%	57%	82%	77%	75%	50%	14%	65%
Friedman (D)	87%	72%	85%	100%	100%	100%	100%	50%	100%
Gabriel (D)	71%	63%	85%	100%	100%	100%	91%	39%	89%
Gallagher (R)	0%	20%	38%	36%	14%	25%	0%	26%	30%
Garcia, C. (D)	79%	72%	80%	100%	92%	93%	90%	44%	94%
Garcia, E. (D)	73%	60%	79%	100%	100%	83%	75%	55%	92%
Gipson (D)	86%	67%	81%	100%	100%	100%	90%	44%	100%
Gloria (D)	86%	70%	80%	100%	92%	100%	100%	67%	100%
Gómez Reyes (D)	87%	74%	85%	100%	100%	100%	100%	50%	100%
Gonzalez, Lorena (D) 	95%	67%	86%	100%	100%	100%	100%	50%	100%
Gray (D)	50%	44%	52%	78%	100%	86%	80%	44%	81%
Grayson (D)	51%	54%	76%	91%	92%	67%	50%	33%	89%
Holden (D) 	90%	70%	85%	100%	100%	100%	100%	39%	100%
Irwin (D)	54%	36%	56%	82%	79%	81%	90%	26%	83%

 Civil Liberties Champion
 Civil Liberties Advocate (Scored 90-99%)

+ Indicates exemplary score greater than 100.

To find your assemblymember, enter your address at [ACLUCAACTION.ORG](https://aclucaaction.org)

Member Last Name	Overall Score*	Criminal Justice	Economic Justice	Education Equity	Immigrant Rights	LGBTQI	Repro Justice & Gender Equity	Privacy & Tech	Voting Rights
Jones-Sawyer (D) 🗳️	92%	77%	85%	100%	100%	100%	92%	45%	100%
Kalra (D) 🗳️	100+%	89%	96%	100%	100%	100%	100%	67%	100%
Kamlager (D) 🗳️	100+%	94%	96%	100%	100%	100%	92%	75%	95%
Kiley (R)	20%	17%	38%	29%	7%	25%	0%	11%	28%
Lackey (R)	23%	27%	48%	64%	23%	67%	69%	35%	42%
Levine (D)	82%	70%	84%	100%	100%	100%	100%	56%	94%
Limón (D)	79%	70%	80%	100%	100%	100%	100%	50%	94%
Low (D)	69%	65%	71%	91%	100%	93%	100%	28%	100%
Maienschein (D)	64%	47%	57%	82%	85%	87%	90%	33%	89%
Mathis (R)	11%	15%	50%	45%	8%	27%	20%	17%	16%
Mayes (I)	43%	28%	50%	64%	31%	67%	27%	33%	60%
McCarty (D) 🗳️	90%	70%	85%	100%	100%	100%	91%	39%	100%
Medina (D)	81%	69%	80%	100%	93%	94%	100%	32%	100%
Mullin (D)	77%	70%	80%	100%	93%	93%	100%	37%	100%
Muratsuchi(D)	61%	46%	76%	80%	73%	80%	80%	47%	88%
Nazarian (D)	70%	63%	81%	100%	100%	100%	100%	50%	89%
Obernolte (R)	19%	20%	39%	64%	21%	38%	10%	26%	33%
O'Donnell (D)	67%	57%	71%	71%	100%	100%	80%	39%	94%
Patterson (R)	0%	13%	42%	45%	8%	27%	10%	11%	17%
Petrie Norris (D)	57%	40%	57%	91%	85%	93%	100%	28%	83%

Member Last Name	Overall Score*	Criminal Justice	Economic Justice	Education Equity	Immigrant Rights	LGBTQI	Repro Justice & Gender Equity	Privacy & Tech	Voting Rights
Quirk (D) 🗳️	92%	81%	88%	100%	100%	100%	100%	47%	94%
Quirk-Silva (D)	62%	57%	68%	100%	92%	87%	80%	33%	94%
Ramos (D)	50%	25%	58%	73%	85%	87%	91%	39%	72%
Rendon (D)	89%	71%	88%	100%	100%	100%	100%	39%	100%
Rivas, L. (D)	78%	72%	80%	100%	100%	100%	100%	35%	100%
Rivas, R. (D)	84%	69%	85%	100%	100%	100%	100%	39%	100%
Rodriguez (D)	49%	23%	65%	82%	92%	73%	73%	28%	94%
Rubio, B. (D)	59%	64%	68%	91%	92%	100%	80%	28%	95%
Salas (D)	52%	27%	58%	82%	92%	80%	80%	33%	74%
Santiago (D)	88%	77%	89%	100%	100%	100%	93%	40%	100%
Smith (D)	52%	49%	68%	79%	62%	87%	80%	33%	78%
Stone, M. (D) 🗳️	100+%	75%	89%	100%	100%	100%	100%	61%	100%
Talamantes Eggman (D)	75%	67%	75%	82%	100%	100%	100%	40%	94%
Ting (D) 🗳️	99%	77%	91%	100%	100%	100%	100%	56%	100%
Voepel (R)	20%	21%	59%	42%	15%	29%	25%	19%	28%
Waldron (R)	32%	30%	46%	45%	23%	33%	45%	22%	18%
Weber (D) 🗳️	100+%	78%	96%	100%	100%	100%	100%	50%	100%
Wicks (D) 🗳️	100+%	83%	95%	100%	100%	100%	100%	78%	100%
Wood (D)	81%	72%	81%	100%	100%	100%	100%	50%	94%


 Civil Liberties Champion
 Civil Liberties Advocate (Scored 90-99%)

+ Indicates exemplary score greater than 100.

To find your assemblymember, enter your address at [ACLUCAACTION.ORG](https://aclucaaction.org)

ACLU California Action 2020 State Legislative Scorecard **SENATE**

Member Last Name	Overall Score*	Criminal Justice	Economic Justice	Education Equity	Immigrant Rights	LGBTQI	Repro Justice & Gender Equity	Privacy & Tech	Voting Rights
Allen (D) 🗳️	92%	84%	86%	93%	100%	100%	92%	50%	100%
Archuleta (D)	79%	78%	85%	92%	89%	89%	83%	60%	100%
Atkins (D) 🗳️	99%	84%	85%	100%	100%	100%	100%	60%	100%
Bates (R)	4%	27%	43%	47%	11%	32%	23%	27%	24%
Beall (D)	88%	84%	86%	93%	100%	100%	100%	36%	100%
Borgeas (R)	8%	30%	41%	36%	9%	26%	31%	25%	18%
Bradford (D) 🗳️	100+%	82%	83%	100%	100%	100%	100%	50%	100%
Caballero (D)	66%	69%	68%	93%	100%	100%	92%	33%	100%
Chang (R)	39%	40%	52%	73%	38%	40%	46%	33%	59%
Dahle (R)	35%	39%	60%	38%	11%	56%	38%	30%	33%
Dodd (D)	78%	78%	75%	93%	89%	90%	92%	50%	100%
Durazo (D) 🗳️	100+%	84%	86%	94%	100%	100%	100%	60%	100%
Galgiani (D)	66%	63%	68%	86%	89%	90%	83%	33%	100%
Glazer (D)	70%	78%	68%	88%	78%	90%	85%	42%	88%
Gonzalez, Lena (D) 🗳️	100+%	91%	83%	100%	100%	100%	100%	71%	100%
Grove (R)	15%	29%	52%	38%	0%	26%	33%	20%	29%
Hertzberg (D) 🗳️	100%	84%	86%	100%	100%	100%	100%	45%	100%
Hill (D)	84%	84%	86%	100%	100%	95%	100%	55%	100%
Hueso (D)	84%	82%	82%	100%	89%	95%	92%	64%	100%
Hurtado (D)	69%	53%	64%	100%	100%	89%	92%	40%	82%

 Civil Liberties Champion
🗳️ Civil Liberties Advocate (Scored 90-99%)

Member Last Name	Overall Score*	Criminal Justice	Economic Justice	Education Equity	Immigrant Rights	LGBTQI	Repro Justice & Gender Equity	Privacy & Tech	Voting Rights
Jackson (D) 🗳️	97%	77%	81%	93%	91%	95%	93%	75%	100%
Jones (R)	20%	30%	37%	33%	13%	40%	17%	17%	14%
Leyva (D) 🗳️	100+%	83%	85%	94%	100%	100%	100%	50%	100%
McGuire (D) 🗳️	91%	84%	86%	94%	100%	100%	100%	45%	100%
Melendez (R)	3%	15%	39%	40%	7%	33%	30%	17%	11%
Mitchell (D) 🗳️	100+%	85%	86%	100%	100%	100%	100%	50%	100%
Monning (D) 🗳️	94%	86%	86%	93%	100%	100%	100%	69%	100%
Moorlach (R)	24%	31%	46%	31%	0%	37%	33%	30%	29%
Morrell (R)	3%	15%	38%	36%	0%	32%	15%	27%	25%
Nielsen (R)	0%	27%	37%	54%	25%	37%	25%	20%	26%
Pan (D)	89%	84%	86%	100%	100%	95%	93%	50%	100%
Portantino (D)	83%	84%	89%	100%	100%	100%	100%	67%	100%
Roth (D)	83%	82%	82%	86%	89%	95%	92%	36%	100%
Rubio, S. (D)	82%	80%	86%	93%	100%	95%	100%	45%	100%
Skinner (D) 🗳️	100+%	84%	89%	93%	100%	100%	100%	55%	100%
Stern (D)	79%	81%	79%	93%	90%	100%	92%	44%	100%
Umberg (D)	79%	74%	69%	93%	80%	95%	92%	40%	100%
Wieckowski (D) 🗳️	98%	88%	90%	100%	100%	100%	93%	73%	100%
Wiener (D) 🗳️	100+%	83%	86%	100%	100%	100%	100%	50%	100%
Wilk (R)	48%	46%	54%	81%	50%	52%	62%	50%	65%

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COUNTERING STEREOTYPES TO IMPROVE THE STATUS OF NATIVE AMERICAN EDUCATION IN HUMBOLDT COUNTY

BY CARMEN KING

In October, the ACLU Foundation of Northern California released *Failing Grade: The Status of Native American Education in Humboldt County*, a report about disparities in education outcomes for Indigenous students in Humboldt County.

Since then, our partners at the Northern California Indian Development Council (NCIDC) have worked to engage the community in thoughtful, curated conversations about the report's findings. Rain Marshall (Ihanktonwan Yankton Sioux), in her role as Indigenous Education Advocate at NCIDC, has invited community members, including teachers and school officials, to lean into difficult conversations and to take part in identifying solutions.

These virtual events have created space to talk about how explicit and implicit racism affects students' vision of themselves and their futures, and how countering these narratives and stereotypes at school can meaningfully change education outcomes for native youth.

A powerful story about the lasting impacts of stereotypes was shared by Darrell Sherman, tribal council member of the Bear River Band of Rohnerville Rancheria, who recounted a painful experience he had at nine years old. "I was playing pitcher at a little league game, and I was having trouble keeping my pitching foot planted on the mound," Councilmember Sherman recounted. "The coach, who I viewed as a father figure, called a time-out and came out on the field.




"Don't allow racist jokes or remarks to go unchallenged," says Darrell Sherman, tribal council member of the Bear River Band of Rohnerville Rancheria, who spoke at a Humboldt County community conversation. "They have real consequences. We all must work together to build up and encourage our youth."

I thought he was coming out to give me a pep talk, but instead he turned and said to the umpire in full earshot of the crowd, "Don't worry, he's Indian."

Years later, Darrell is still reliving that day. "I can't reiterate just how damaging it was. My faith was broken. It made me feel like I didn't know the rule book, like I wasn't good enough, and like I didn't belong."

When asked how he was able to overcome the impact racism and implicit biases had on him and become the leader that he is today, Darrell responded that he always had positive reassurance at home. "It was important for me to hear things like, 'I expect you to do well in school, I expect you to graduate, I expect you to go to college.'" Darrell recounted speaking with a native student recently about virtual learning. "I told the student he was doing a good job, and he looked at me strangely. He said to me, 'I've never heard that, no one's ever told me I'm doing a good job.'"

Darrell's advice to educators in Humboldt: "Tell kids they are doing a good job, tell them they are going to succeed—that you expect them to succeed, and treat them accordingly. And don't allow racist jokes or remarks to go unchallenged. They have real consequences. We all must work together to build up and encourage our youth." 

Carmen King is an associate communications strategist at the ACLU of Northern California.

FAMILY LEAVE VICTORY

BY NASREEN JOHNSON

Millions of workers were left out when California created the first Paid Family Leave program in the nation in 2002. Although all workers paid taxes from every paycheck into the program, only those at employers of 50 people or more were protected from being fired if they took the leave. Low-wage workers and workers of color—who are far more likely to work for smaller employers—rarely used the leave benefits they paid for because of the risk of being fired.

Thanks in large part to efforts of the ACLU of California and coalition partners, SB 1383 strengthened the Paid Family Leave program in 2020 by amending the California Family Rights Act to extend family leave job protections to an additional six million Californians, finally narrowing the racial and socioeconomic gap.

The new law, authored by Sen. Hannah-Beth Jackson, ensures that people who work for employers of five people or more have the right to return to their jobs if they take a family or medical leave. It also expands the definition of

'family members' to cover domestic partners, grandparents, grandchildren, siblings, and parents-in-law.


Paid family leave is beneficial for all workers but also critical in closing the gender income gap. One in two caregivers loses income when they take time off to provide care, and women are disproportionately the caregivers for a new baby or sick family member.

"The pandemic has increased the number of people struggling to care for family members while also dealing with increased financial and job insecurity," said Phyllida Burlingame, ACLU of Northern California legal-policy co-director (policy). "The need for job-protected leave should have been crystal clear to all, but unfortunately SB 1383 was one of the most highly contested bills last year. It barely passed in the last three minutes of the legislative session."

Navigating the COVID-19 pandemic to collaborate with partners and mobilize advocates virtually, the ACLU produced messaging and

fact sheets highlighting job protection as a racial and economic justice issue, made dozens of online presentations about the bill, and coordinated dozens of online lobby visits to legislative offices. The ACLU staff also kept allies mobilized with thousands of text messages, social media content, and email action alerts.

Operating in a virtual environment had its challenges, but also led to increased participation from people who would have been unable to travel to Sacramento and speak on behalf of this issue.

"We triumphantly celebrated this hard-fought victory by attending the virtual signing ceremony with partners and advocates," said Maya Ingram, former Legislative Advocate with the ACLU Center for Advocacy and Policy. "It was a historic moment, made possible by the myriad people representing workers' unions and gender equity, elder care, and early childcare advocates." 

Nasreen Johnson is a communications strategist at the ACLU of Northern California.

THE WAY FORWARD IN TRUMP'S DESTRUCTIVE AFTERMATH CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

QUESTIONS OF RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

Talla notes that, while we challenged many Trump-era immigration policies in the courts—for example, *Immigration Law Lab v. Wolf* challenges the Trump Administration's policy forcing asylum seekers to wait in inhumane conditions in Mexico—those immigration policies have left behind major restorative justice questions. For instance, although Biden issued a memorandum saying that up to 300 migrants per day could be processed at the border, further questions remain about how to help the full scope of people affected.

"We know that, under Trump, only two percent of asylum applicants were released to the U.S.," Talla says. "So how do we help the people who gave up waiting for asylum? What about the people who went through the asylum process under Trump and had their applications denied altogether? There is no plan in place to help them."

On the other hand, Biden's executive order repealing the Muslim and African bans discusses a process by which the thousands of people who were denied visas can reapply. But, Talla notes, "there are people affected by the travel bans for whom getting a visa will not be reparative. These are people who were denied medical attention, and who were not able to be with loved ones before they died, and who could not attend weddings or funerals. Their pain cannot be addressed by a visa or executive order."

TRUMP'S LEGACY

Trump's impact extends to all our issues, but it extends even more deeply in some more fundamental ways: the role of the courts, the place of truth in civic dialogue, and the ease with which those in power can "other" a vast amount of people—all of which have major implications for our work.

Civil rights advocates now face the reality that the Trump Administration altered the federal judiciary—including the Supreme Court—for a generation or more, populating it with judges whose opinions have failed to recognize civil rights and civil liberties. Under the courts that Trump shaped, we have seen some of the most unjust rulings in American history, such as the Supreme Court's 2018 authorization of the Muslim ban.

Trump also ushered in an era of misinformation, in which everything appears to be subject to question. From his lies about his election loss, to his lies about the virulence of Covid-19, we witnessed his administration shape a more tenuous form of democracy in which people no longer appear to operate from a common set of facts. This inspires major questions about how our advocacy

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On his first day in office, President Joe Biden signed an executive order lifting the Muslim and African travel bans.

strategies, which rely on data and science, might land in an era when reliable sources of information are so easily distrusted.

These dynamics rest upon one primary ideology surfaced by the Trump Administration: the fundamental lie of white supremacy. We saw this manifest at all levels of government, from state-level election laws that suppressed the votes of people of color to the federal immigration policies that ripped apart communities and blocked pathways to safety and citizenship.

"Even though people think of California as a liberal bastion, we have so much work to do to ensure that civil rights and civil liberties are accessible to everyone here."

—Shilpi Agarwal, ACLU NorCal legal-policy co-director

So what is the antidote to this poisonous legacy? The answer lies, in part, in advocacy strategy: an understanding that, while we will continue to bring cases before the courts, we must never rely on that advocacy venue alone. We must mobilize public support and public opinion, and we must fight to advance just policies in the legislative and executive branches, both locally and nationally.


THE WAY FORWARD

Another major antidote to Trump's legacy lies in local- and state-level work. That is the face of government that most directly impacts the communities we work with to protect and empower. And local organizing—as we saw in Georgia during the 2020 election—can precipitate a groundswell for change.

"Even though people think of California as a liberal bastion, we have so much work to do to ensure that civil rights and civil liberties are accessible to everyone here," says Shilpi Agarwal, ACLU NorCal legal-policy co-director.

Ending local- and state-level complicity with immigration agencies remains a major priority, along with police reform—two systems that perpetrate disproportionate violence against communities of color. Says Agarwal, "That is one concrete way to move forward from the Trump era: to divest from racist institutions and invest in solving systemic racism."

ACLU NorCal is also planning to participate in local redistricting processes to ensure fair representation and political power for historically disenfranchised communities through the redrawing of equitable district maps. This will serve as another corrective to the Trump Administration, which tried to exclude immigrant communities from the Census in order to suppress their civic participation.

"There are so many local districts in California where politicians have been able to redraw voting district lines so that historically disenfranchised communities—particularly communities of color—remain without equitable representation, and the power of their vote is diminished," says Agarwal. "After what we've seen under Trump, it needs to be our priority to enfranchise people, to make sure people are motivated and able to show up and vote for their leaders. The trajectory may be rough. There will be no silver bullets in the next four years. But there are trends emerging that suggest we have a lot to look forward to, like the power of organizing and base-building to create a more hopeful and inclusive vision of society. Our focus is on communities and how powerful they are when they mobilize." 

Sarah Hopkins is a communications strategist at the ACLU of Northern California.

DONOR PROFILE

Supporters Stephanie Daffer and Robert Michels recently shared their thoughts about the ACLU with Ruth Herring and Ziba Marashi, members of our development team.

WHAT INSPIRED YOU TO BEGIN GIVING TO THE ACLU?

STEPHANIE: A couple of years ago, we met with national ACLU development staff as we were contemplating creating a trust. They helped enormously. We had not given much to charity over the years as we had been preoccupied with day-to-day living. Now that we had money to give, we felt strongly that it should go to causes for the greater good. We came up with a short list of charities that were most important to us and that we thought would be most valuable over the long term. The ACLU was very high on that list.

ROBERT: We believe in the ACLU’s commitment to protecting equal rights for everyone. The ACLU makes sure that many voices are heard. This collective impact is greater than what we have as individuals, and we want to be part of that bigger voice.

WE ARE A MULTI-ISSUE ORGANIZATION. WHICH SPECIFIC ISSUES DO YOU CARE ABOUT MOST?

STEPHANIE: I care about how to eliminate hate speech on the Internet. I think we need new rules for all the platforms about what you can publish . . . what is free speech versus what is hate speech. I’m really concerned about the technology companies and how we’re going to control the misinformation that’s out there. The other issue is immigration. We desperately need immigration reform.

ROBERT: I’m a strong believer in advocating for rights for the LGBTQ community and other minority groups. Criminal justice reform is a very big issue for me because I’ve worked with minors primarily, and with some adults, who have been involved in the system. I see the inequities and



ACLU NorCal supporters Robert Michels and Stephanie Daffer

the unjust treatment of those who don’t have much money as compared to those who do. People aren’t given an even shake.

STEPHANIE: Voting rights is also a concern.


WHAT HAS YOUR EXPERIENCE BEEN LIKE AS YOU’VE ENGAGED WITH THE ACLU AS DONORS OVER THE PAST COUPLE OF YEARS?

STEPHANIE: It’s been exceptional. I think the ACLU staff have been really interested in us . . . very involved. I love your webinars, especially the ones during the 2020 election season. I think the content is very deep, and the questions the interviewers ask are on point and timely. And I appreciate that you keep sending us links and reading material.

One event that stands out in my mind is when Jeffrey Robinson, the top racial justice expert from the national ACLU, explained why there are so many statues of Confederate heroes in the

South. I had always assumed that they were put up around the Civil War period. Actually, white supremacist segregationists erected many of them during the Jim Crow era into the 1920s when they were lynching Black people and slaughtering entire Black communities. And then there was a second spike during the civil rights movement starting in the 1950s and lasting into the 1970s. It was just appalling! So, the more people are educated, the more chance we have for an equal society.


ROBERT: We shared the link to Mr. Robinson’s video with others and the response we got back was amazing: ‘Really? That’s really what’s going on? Because it’s not taught in our history books.’ That’s a much larger discussion . . . what is, and is not, taught in our public schools.

STEPHANIE: One more thing I’d like to add: I absolutely love all the artwork in your materials; we have it all on display in our home. I’m glad to hear about your new artist in residence program. 

A NEW RESOURCE ON OUR WEBSITE: RACIAL EQUITY & STUDENT EXPRESSION IN SCHOOLS

Students have organized and led a remarkable number of movements for social change. Yet schools in California and across the country continue to limit student expression and the punishments for speaking up are often applied discriminately. Particularly concerning are incidents of schools restricting the speech of Black students who express support for Black lives and the Black Lives Matter movement.

The U.S. and California Constitutions and the California Education Code protect student speech.

Students have the right to use their voices, to express pride in their identity and culture, and to stand up for what they believe in. This new guide, *Racial Equity & Student Expression in Schools*, gives students the power to respond to censorship. We hope this resource will provide students and parents with the tools and knowledge needed to successfully challenge violations of free speech rights, on and off campus. 

READ MORE AT WWW.ACLUNC.ORG/KYR



Racial Equity & Student Expression in Schools

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

In our work at the ACLU, we are driven by the urgency of now. We map out strategies to help shape a future for all where civil liberties and civil rights are respected. And we are drawn to lessons from history.

That is why I am so excited about the *ACLU News* archives. This print newsletter which you are reading right now has been published continuously since 1936. The digital archives are a treasure trove now available through a partnership with the California Historical Society, searchable online at www.aclunc.org/CHS.

You can choose any single year in the archives and see the connections between the urgent issues of the present moment and lessons for how to shape strategy for the future. Take 1965.

1965: PROTECTING VOTING RIGHTS

Today, the ACLU is working to protect voting rights through advocacy and litigation to stop voter suppression and expand voting rights. Following the big lie spread by Donald Trump and his supporters, states around the country are passing restrictive voting rights laws, launching a wave of voter suppression not seen since the end of Reconstruction.

The through lines to 1965 and the years leading up to it are unmistakable.

Following the Civil War and the ratification of the 15th Amendment, there was a rapid increase in African American men voting and holding office. That trend was interrupted by a combination of outright violence and passage of a range of voter suppression laws by states, and inaction by the federal government. Decades of systematic voter suppression followed, supported by a lie—the false narrative of the “Lost Cause” that the Confederacy was on the right side of history, that the Civil War was a war of Northern aggression, and that the Reconstruction governments were corrupt.

It took a mass movement to overcome that lie. *ACLU News* articles in 1965 highlight the campaign and passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. And in the October issue, then Board Chair Howard Friedman described a campaign to raise funds in Northern California “in a separate, voluntary campaign for the installation of a new National Southern Regional Office in Georgia” that would help enforce the Voting Rights Act.

Following the big lie spread by Donald Trump and his supporters, states around the country are passing restrictive voting rights laws, launching a wave of voter suppression not seen since the end of Reconstruction. The through lines to 1965 and the years leading up to it are unmistakable.

Taking a page from that playbook of 1965, the ACLU is doubling down in 2021 with a significant investment in ACLU affiliates in the South, what we call the ACLU Southern Collective, with voting rights as a key focus.

INTERSECTIONS OF RACIAL AND ECONOMIC JUSTICE

Today, the ACLU has launched a national campaign for Systemic Equality. You can visit aclu.org to learn more about that effort, which is focused on federal advocacy to pressure the Biden administration to address long-standing racial inequities across a range of issues.



Browsing our newly released *ACLU News* archives, you can see how connections between the past and present reveal intractable challenges that require us to refine strategy in the moment we face them. Above, the front page of an issue from 1965, and the ACLU’s new Systemic Equality campaign website.

SEARCH THE ARCHIVES AT WWW.ACLUNC.ORG/CHS AND LEARN MORE ABOUT SYSTEMIC EQUALITY AT WWW.ACLU.ORG/SYSTEMICEQUALITY



ACLU of Northern California Executive Director Abdi Soltani

This issue of *ACLU News* features an article on a lawsuit against a RV ban in Pacifica. This is just one example of our expanded efforts in Northern California to address racial and economic injustices in our region. Access to affordable housing—and the rights of unhoused persons—will be central to that work.

Efforts to end discrimination in housing has a long trajectory at the ACLU, and was featured in the *ACLU News* from 1964-1965. Month after month, articles focus on the passage of the landmark Rumford Fair Housing Act, the subsequent campaign to protect the law from repeal at the ballot, and litigation that succeeded to reinstate the law in the U.S. Supreme Court citing the 14th amendment.

STATEWIDE IMPACT

Today, the ACLU in California is also evolving as an organization. This issue features the legislative report (pages 5-8) and the lawmakers scorecard. As of April 1, the legislative program and staff are now part of the newly formed ACLU California Action, which has been jointly created by the three ACLU California affiliates (Northern California, Southern California, and San Diego and Imperial Counties) to enhance our statewide impact.

Here too, we see that we are on a journey started in 1965. Former Board Chair Howard Friedman described the first steps in our statewide collaboration on legislation, writing, “we recognize the need of a unified lobbying program under one legislative representative acting for both Northern and Southern California ACLU affiliates, resulting in a single ACLU voice in Sacramento.” We look forward to the next stage of our unified advocacy to push bold reforms in California.

And we hope you will continue to be a part of our work, in California and nationally. All of this work is made possible by the steadfast support of our members and donors. Thank you.

Abdi Soltani

Abdi Soltani, Executive Director
ACLU of Northern California