

# METHODOLOGY

Common Sense Kids Action works with parents, educators, and policymakers to ensure that every kid has the opportunity to succeed. California has one of the world's largest economies, but too many of our kids are left behind. Children and youth should be our top priority, and elected leaders need to hear from families and be accountable to communities.

The 2017 "For Kids" Legislative Scorecard is launching this year to shine a spotlight on the ways legislators support, or hinder, California's young people. Parents deserve to know which lawmakers use their votes to help kids, and which don't. Are legislators "For Kids"? If not, where can they—must they—do better?

Our ratings are based on how legislators voted on 56 key "For Kids" and "Against Kids" bills in the 2017 legislative session. Common Sense divided those bills into four categories: Early Life, Family Life, School Life, and Digital Life.

Parent organizers with Common Sense Kids Action made nearly 3,000 visits to legislators to highlight these bills' importance. And families scored some important wins in 2017: Twenty-five For Kids bills were signed into law, three more were included in the 2018 budget, and a key Against Kids bill was defeated.

## **SCORING**

- Each senator and assemblymember was scored according to their votes on 56 "For Kids" and "Against Kids" bills.
- Scores were calculated as a percentage of "For Kids" or "Against Kids" votes that each legislator had the opportunity to make either in committees or in their house.
- Average scores in each house were relatively high, with assemblymembers scoring an average 84.1 percent and senators 84.5 percent.
- Legislators who scored above 90 percent were awarded a "For Kids" star.





For years, millions of parents and educators have turned to Common Sense to help them make informed decisions about media and technology. Our consumer platform, Common Sense Media, publishes independent ratings and reviews on movies, television shows, books, apps, and video games. Common Sense Education helps teachers utilize education technology tools and access a comprehensive K–12 Digital Citizenship Curriculum. Common Sense Kids Action advocates to make kids our nation's top priority.

# 2017 CALIFORNIA LEGISLATION

### **EARLY LIFE**

Investing in kids early can make all the difference. Common Sense Kids Action advocates for high-quality child care, pre-K, nutrition, and preventive health care.

**AB 11** Provides funding and support for innovative early childhood services that serve families facing adverse childhood experiences such as abuse or mental illness.

**AB 43** Funds programs that prevent incarceration, such as universal preschool, by assessing a tax on companies that profit from contracting with state prisons.

**AB 60** Eliminates burdensome paperwork requirements for child care assistance, allows families to qualify for 12 months at a time, and establishes a graduated phaseout for families whose incomes have increased.

**AB 273** Clarifies that English as a second language and high school equivalency classes are acceptable training courses to qualify for subsidized child care.

**AB 340** Expands California's infant and child early-screening program to identify children who are victims of trauma.

**SB 63** Guarantees 12 weeks of job-protected parental leave for more California employees.

## **FAMILY LIFE**

We fight for policies that address poverty and support working families, such as paid leave, paid sick days, and the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), so that all kids can grow up feeling safe and supported.

**AB 5** Creates more stable earning opportunities for California families by requiring employers to offer additional hours of work to existing part-time workers before hiring a new employee or contractor.

**AB 15** Increases Denti-Cal reimbursement rates for the most common dental services.

 ${\bf AB\,75}$  Counts income reported on an IRS 1099 form as eligible for the California EITC.

 $\begin{tabular}{ll} \textbf{AB 160} Increases the maximum lifetime number of months a family can receive CalWORKS benefits from 48 to 60 weeks. \end{tabular}$ 

**AB 164** Develops a system to respond to changing needs for food assistance and to provide benefits for specific needs like emergency and ineligibility for federal assistance.

**AB 175** Requires manufacturers of marijuana-infused edible products to receive approval from the Bureau of Marijuana Control and ensure they are in compliance with child safety and marketing rules before releasing them into the market.

**AB 501** Fills a gap in mental health services for children by creating a licensing category for children's mental health crisis residential services.

**AB 1127** Requires buildings open to the public to ensure that at least one baby diaper-changing station is made available, regardless of gender of the caregiver.

**AB 1520** Establishes the Lifting Children and Families Out of Poverty Task Force to look at the root causes of and best strategies to combat deep poverty.

**ACA 2 and AB 274** Reinstates the sales and use tax on processed snack foods and candy.

**SB 2** Establishes the Building Homes and Jobs Trust Fund to provide a new permanent source of funding for affordable housing.

**SB 3** Places a \$4 billion housing bond to support the construction of affordable housing on the ballot in the 2018 election.

SB 10 Reforms California's money bail system

**SB 17** Requires drugmakers to give prior notice before raising prices and requires health plans to report how much of the premiums that we pay are spent on prescription drugs.

**SB 18 and SCR 41** Outlines the research-based essential needs of all California's children and establishes standards relating to the health, safety, well-being, early childhood and educational opportunities, and familial supports necessary for all children to succeed.

**SB 35** Streamlines the approval process for the construction of new housing

**SB 54** Limits the use of state and local resources for federal immigration enforcement.

**SB 179** Creates a third, nonbinary gender marker on state-issued identity documents, streamlines the process for Californians to obtain identification documents that accurately reflect their gender, and creates a process by which minors can apply for a change in gender on their birth certificates.

**SB 190** Ends the practice of charging administrative fees for families with youth in the criminal justice system.

SB 245 Requires child welfare agencies to provide and document receipt of comprehensive sexual education to foster youth and develop a statewide curriculum on the reproductive rights of foster youth.

 $\textbf{SB 270} \ \ Requires \ hotels \ and \ motels \ to \ train \ employees \ on \ how \ to \ recognize \ potential \ victims \ of \ human \ trafficking, \ and \ signs \ of \ human \ trafficking \ and \ how \ to \ report \ those \ signs \ to \ law \ enforcement.$ 

**SB 300** Requires health warning labels to be placed on sugary beverages sold in California.

**SB 597** Allows victims of human trafficking, one-third of whom are minors, to enroll in the Safe at Home program to ensure that their home addresses remain confidential.

**SB 623** Creates the Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund to provide safe drinking water to lower-income Californians who do not have access to clean water.

**SB 625** Reestablishes the "honorable discharge" program for juvenile offenders who have successfully completed parole and who meet certain self-support criteria.

## SCHOOL LIFE

A high-quality education opens doors. We support policies for K-12 programs and teacher training that prepare kids for college and career success.

**AB 10:** Requires schools serving low-income students to provide free menstrual products.

**AB 24** Creates the State Seal of Civic Engagement to recognize high school graduates who have demonstrated excellence in and a commitment to civics education and participation.

**AB 45** Provides financial assistance to school districts seeking to develop housing for school employees.

**AB 169** Establishes the High Need Teacher Program to award onetime grant funds of \$20,000 to students in educator-preparation programs with their commitment to teach in a subject area affected by the teacher shortage.

**AB 254** Establishes a pilot program for local education agencies to support student's mental health using a Whole Person Care model.

**AB 699** Updates California's laws on equity in education to prohibit discrimination based on immigration status and/or religious beliefs.

**AB 1217** Creates the California Teacher Corps and provides \$60 million in grants for teacher-residency programs.

**SB 12** Requires county child welfare agencies to identify a person to assist foster youth in applying for financial aid, streamline the verification process for foster youth applying through FAFSA, and expand the existing on-campus support system in the state's community colleges.

**SB 138** Streamlines the enrollment process for the free and reduced-price lunch program for lower-income students.

**SB 169** Incorporates existing federal Title IX standards protecting students from sex discrimination and sexual assault on campuses into California law

**SB 183** Requires ICE agents to obtain a warrant before entering a state building or school.

**SB 250** Prohibits school officials from shaming, treating differently, or providing a different meal to students with school meal debt.

**SB 257** Requires school districts to admit students whose parents were California residents but then deported, provided they can show documentation proving their parents' deportation and that they had lived in California immediately before moving abroad.

**SB 424** Establishes permanent funding for the California Regional Environmental Education Community Network, which connects teachers with high-quality environmental education resources.

**SB 436** Creates the California STEM Professional Teaching Pathway to recruit, train, support, and retain qualified science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) professionals as mathematics and science teachers.

**SB 782** Provides grants for public schools to buy California-grown food and expand the number of freshly prepared school meals.

## **DIGITAL LIFE**

In today's 24/7 digital world, kids need to learn to be safe and smart online. We're expanding access to digital learning tools for all kids while protecting their privacy.

**AB 76** Prohibits websites, online services and applications, and mobile applications from marketing marijuana products and services to minors.

**AB 165** Takes away digital privacy protections for California's public school students, teachers, and staff by allowing any person working "for or on the behalf of" a local educational agency to search an electronic device or online account without complying with CaIFCPA rules

**AB 375** Ensures that consumers enjoy choice, transparency, and security in the treatment of their personal information when accessing the internet through an internet service provider (ISP).

**AB 1665** Funds infrastructure projects to expand broadband internet access in lower-income and rural communities.

 $\begin{tabular}{ll} \bf ACR\,130\, Designates\, the\, third\, week\, of\, October\, as\, Digital\, \\ Citizenship\, Week. \end{tabular}$ 

 ${\bf SB\,135}\ {\bf Calls}\ upon\ the\ Instructional\ Quality\ Commission\ to$  develop and the state board to adopt, modify, or revise a model curriculum in media literacy.

**SB 203** Creates a state-based advisory committee to develop digital citizenship and media-literacy resources and best practices for school districts.

**SB 327** Requires that connected devices meet basic security requirements and provide consumers with information about the data they collect and share.

 ${\bf SB\,500}\ {\bf Clarifies\ that\ extortion\ covers\ coercion\ involving\ sexual\ acts\ and\ sexually\ explicit\ images.}$ 

# CALIFORNIA ASSEMBLY





Dante Acosta R | Santa Clarita **66%** 



Cecilia Aguiar-Curry D | Winters **100%** 



Travis Allen R | Huntington Beach **33%** 



Joaquin Arambula D | Kingsburg **100%** 



Catherine Baker R | Dublin **81%** 



Marc Berman D | Palo Alto **100%** 



Frank Bigelow R | O'Neals **47%** 



Richard Bloom D | Santa Monica **100%** 



Rob Bonta D | Alameda **100%** 



William Brough R | Dana Point **39%** 



Autumn Burke D | Inglewood 100%



Anna Caballero D | Salinas **100%** 



Ian Calderon D | Whittier 100%



Sabrina Cervantes D | Eastvale **94%** 



Ed Chau D | Monterey Park **100%** 



Rocky Chavez R | Oceanside **76%** 



Phillip Chen R | Diamond Bar



David Chiu D | San Francisco **100%** 



Steven Choi R | Irvine **48%** 



Kansen Chu D | San Jose **100%** 



Ken Cooley D | Rancho Cordova



Jim Cooper D | Elk Grove **91%** 



Jordan Cunningham R | Templeton **63%** 



Brian Dahle R | Bieber **55%** 



Tom Daly D | Anaheim **94%** 



Susan Eggman D | Stockton **84%** 



Heath Flora R | Ripon **53%** 



Vince Fong R | Bakersfied **50%** 



Jim Frazier D | Oakley **94%** 



Laura Friedman D | Glendale **100%** 



James Gallagher R | Yuba City **52%** 



Cristina Garcia D | Bell Gardens **97%** 



Eduardo Garcia D | Coachella **94%** 



Mike Gipson D | Carson 100%



Todd Gloria D | San Diego **97%** 



Lorena Gonzalez-Fletcher D | San Diego **100%** 



Adam Gray D | Merced **88%** 



Tim Grayson D | Concord **97%** 



Matthew Harper R | Huntington Beach **36%** 



Chris Holden D | Pasadena **100%** 



Jacqui Irwin D | Thousand Oaks **94%** 



Reginald Jones-Sawyer D | Los Angeles **100%** 



Ash Kalra D | San Jose **100%** 



Kevin Kiley R | Rocklin **52%** 



Tom Lackey R | Palmdale **70%** 



Marc Levine D | San Rafael **97%** 



Monique Limon D | Goleta **97%** 



Evan Low D | Campbell **100%** 



94%

Brian Maienschein R | San Diego



Devon Mathis R | Porterville



53%



Chad Mayes R | Yucca Valley **59%** 



Kevin McCarty D | Sacramento **97%** 



Jose Medina D | Riverside **97%** 



Melissa Melendez R | Lake Elsinore **38%** 



Kevin Mullin D | South San Francisco **97%** 



Al Muratsuchi D | Torrance **91%** 



Adrin Nazarian D | Los Angeles



Jay Obernolte R | Big Bear Lake



Patrick O'Donnell D | Long Beach



**45**%

Jim Patterson R | Fresno



Bill Quirk D | Hayward



Sharon Quirk-Silva D | Fullerton **97%** 



Common Sense Kids Action California Legislative Scorecard 2017



Anthony Rendon D | Lakewood **94%** 



Eloise Gomez Reyes D | Colton **97%** 



Freddie Rodriguez D | Pomona **100%** 



Blanca Rubio D | Baldwin Park **97%** 



Rudy Salas D | Bakersfield **97%** 



Miguel Santiago D | Los Angeles **100%** 



Marc Steinorth R | Rancho Cucamonga **59%** 



Mark Stone D | Scotts Valley **100%** 



Tony Thurmond D | Richmond **100%** 



Phillip Ting D | San Francisco **100%** 



Randy Voepel R | Santee **59%** 



Marie Waldron R | Escondido **73%** 



Shirley Weber D | San Diego **100%** 



Jim Wood D | Healdsburg **97%** 

# CALIFORNIA SENATE



Ben Allen D | Santa Monica



Joel Anderson R | Alpine **57%** 



Toni G. Atkins D | San Diego







Jim Beall D | San Jose

100%



Tom Berryhill R | Modesto **54%** 



Steven Bradford D | Gardena **100%** 



Anthony Canella R | Ceres **80%** 



Kevin de León D | Los Angeles **100%** 



Bill Dodd D | Napa



Jean Fuller R | Bakersfield **54%** 



Ted Gaines R | El Dorado Hills



Cathleen Galgiani D | Stockton **97%** 



Steven Glazer D | Orinda

**92**%



Ed Hernandez D | Azusa **97%** 



Robert Hertzberg D | Los Angeles **92%** 



Jerry Hill D | San Mateo **100%** 



Ben Hueso D | San Diego **97%** 



Hannah-Beth Jackson D | Santa Barbara **97%** 



Ricardo Lara D | Bell Gardens **100%** 



Connie M. Leyva D | Chino **100%** 



Mike McGuire D | Healdsburg **94%** 



Tony Mendoza D | Artesia **95%** 



Holly J. Mitchell D | Los Angeles **100%** 



Bill Monning D | Carmel **95%** 



John Moorlach R | Costa Mesa **57%** 



Mike Morell R | Rancho Cucamonga 43%



Josh Newman D | Fullerton **95%** 



Janet Nguyen R | Garden Grove **67%** 



Jim Nielsen R | Gerber **53%** 



Richard Pan D | Sacramento **100%** 



Anthony Portantino D | La Cañada Flintridge **91%** 



Richard Roth D | Riverside **97%** 



Nancy Skinner D | Berkeley



**100%** 



Henry Stern D | Canoga Park **97%** 



Jeff Stone R | Temecula **50%** 



Andy Vidak R | Hanford **63%** 



Bob Wieckowski D | Fremont **95%** 



Scott Wiener D | San Francisco **100%** 



Scott Wilk R | Santa Clarita **71%** 



## Common Sense is dedicated to kids' well-being in the digital age.

Common Sense Kids Action is the advocacy arm of Common Sense, the nation's leading nonprofit dedicated to helping kids thrive in today's digital world. Common Sense empowers parents, teachers, and policymakers by providing unbiased information, trusted advice, and innovative tools to help them harness the power of media and technology as a positive force in kids' lives.

Common Sense Kids Action works with policymakers, business leaders, and advocates across the nation to ensure that all kids have the supports and opportunities they need to succeed. From early life and family life to school life and digital life, Common Sense champions reforms that make common sense for America's kids and families.

### San Francisco Headquarters

650 Townsend Street, Suite 435 San Francisco, CA 94103 (415) 863-0600

### Los Angeles Office

1100 Glendon Avenue, 17th Floor Los Angeles, CA 90024 (310) 689-7535

### **New York Office**

575 Madison Avenue New York, NY 10022 (212) 315-2138

#### Washington, D.C. Office

2200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW 4th Floor East Washington, D.C. 20037 (202) 350-9992





@CSKidsAction



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