



PARTICIPANTS

FALL STUDY TOUR TO PORTUGAL

October 16-27, 2021

STATE GOVERNMENT

David Hochschild, Chair, California Energy Commission

Serena McIlwain, Undersecretary, California Environmental Protection Agency

CALIFORNIA STATE SENATE

Josh Becker, Vice-Chair, Joint Committee on Climate Change Policy

Andreas Borgeas, Chair, Agriculture Committee

Robert Hertzberg, Senate Majority Leader

Nancy Skinner, Chair, Budget and Fiscal Review Committee

CALIFORNIA STATE ASSEMBLY

Cecilia Aguiar-Curry, Chair, Local Government Committee

James Cooper, Chair, Public Employment & Retirement Committee

Heath Flora, Vice Chair, Natural Resources Committee

Laura Friedman, Chair, Transportation Committee

Christopher Holden, Chair, Utilities and Energy Committee

Jim Wood, Chair, Health Committee

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Jay Ziegler, Director of External Affairs and Policy, The Nature Conservancy

CALIFORNIA FOUNDATION ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE ECONOMY

Jay Hansen, President and CEO

Celeste Cremen, International Project Manager

Wyatt Lundy, Research Director

David Hochschild, Chair
California Energy Commission

David Hochschild was appointed chair of the California Energy Commission by Governor Gavin Newsom in February 2019. He fills the environmental position on the five-member Commission where four of the five members are required by law to have professional training in specific areas - engineering or physical science, environmental protection, economics, and law.



Chair Hochschild's career has spanned public service, environmental advocacy, and the private sector. He first got involved in the solar energy field in 2001 in San Francisco as a special assistant to Mayor Willie Brown where Chair Hochschild launched a citywide \$100 million initiative to put solar panels on public buildings. He also cofounded the Vote Solar Initiative, a 60,000-member advocacy organization promoting solar policies at the local, state, and federal levels. He was executive director of a national consortium of leading solar manufacturers and worked for five years at Solaria, a solar company in Silicon Valley. From 2007 to 2008, he served as a commissioner at the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission.

For his work to advance clean energy, Chair Hochschild was awarded the Sierra Club's Trailblazer Award, the American Lung Association's Clean Air Hero Award, and the U.S. Department of Energy's Million Solar Roof True Champion Award. Chair Hochschild holds a bachelor of arts from Swarthmore College and a master of public policy from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. He also was a Coro Fellow in Public Affairs.

Serena Mcllwain, Undersecretary
California Environmental Environmental Protection



Serena Mcllwain was appointed by Governor Gavin Newsom in March 2019 to serve as Undersecretary of the California Environmental Protection Agency. As Undersecretary, Mcllwain oversees the day to day operations of the agency and serves as the principal advisor to the Secretary. She has oversight responsibility of the Office of the Secretary budget, totaling \$22 million.

Mcllwain also provides leadership and support to all of the boards, departments and offices under CalEPA and CalEPA's total budget of \$4.6 billion.

Prior to joining CalEPA, Mcllwain was director of the Office of Continuous Improvement at the U.S Environmental Protection Agency where she deployed an agency-wide Lean Management System to improve agency performance, increase productivity, eliminate waste, solve problems, and continuously improve. From 2014-2017, she was assistant regional administrator at the U.S. EPA's Region 9 in San Francisco. She served as the senior resource officer, chief information officer and senior grants official, supporting the region's 800 federal staff.

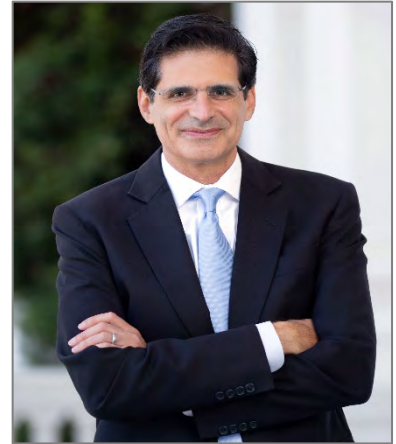
While at the U.S. Department of Energy, from 2011-2014, she was the Deputy Assistant Secretary and Chief Operating Officer, serving as principal advisor to the assistant secretary for the Office of Fossil Energy. In her first year there, she implemented a new Office for Continuous Improvement. She directed business operations, and created a lean culture among the 3,100 federal employees.

Mcllwain was director of the office of business partner at the U.S. Department of Energy from 2009 -2011 and director for workforce planning and management at the Architect of the Capitol from 2003 – 2009.

She earned a Master of Public Administration from George Mason University and a Master of Science in administration from Central Michigan University.

Josh Becker, Senator **California State Senate**

Senator Josh Becker is a public policy innovator working at the nexus of community activism, technology and social justice. Elected to the State Senate in November 2020, Senator Becker represents the residents of California's 13th Senate District, which comprises most of San Mateo County and the northern part of Santa Clara County.



Josh's commitment to service crystalized when he traveled to war-torn Guatemala to work with refugees in the early '90s and later started a basic school for repatriated refugees in El Salvador.

In 2000, Josh created Full Circle, a community leadership and policy innovation organization that funds nonprofits creating positive change in the Bay Area and building civic leaders for the future. He has been the driving force for Full Circle, which has supported policy innovations and community organizations in economic opportunity, education, environmental sustainability and health.

Appointed by Governor Jerry Brown, Josh served seven years on the California State Workforce Development Board, and he served on the Child Care Partnership Council in San Mateo County. Josh also is a founding trustee at the University of California Merced.

Josh has long been a champion in pushing businesses to create social good. After losing his father to brain cancer, Josh helped start a biotech company researching cancer cures. Uniting entrepreneurial expertise with his passion for social change, Josh cofounded New Cycle Capital, a pioneer in building socially responsible businesses. In 2011, Josh joined Lex Machina, which has a mission of bringing openness and transparency to the law. As CEO, he grew the company from a Stanford University public interest project into a nationally recognized platform. Most recently he founded a legal tech accelerator to support entrepreneurs who want to innovate in our legal and public policy system.

Josh earned a JD/MBA from Stanford University in 1999. While a student, Josh cofounded the Stanford Board Fellows program, which trains students to serve on the boards of local nonprofits, engaging them in social progress at the beginning of their careers, rather than the end.

Senator Becker is a 20-year resident of Menlo Park, where he lives with his wife, Jonna, their two children, Leo and Aaron, and the family dog, Percy.

Andreas Borgeas, Senator
California State Senator

Andreas Borgeas is a family man and educator, and as State Senator proudly represents the Eighth District of California.

As an educator, he has worked in numerous international professional and academic capacities; including, as a Fulbright Scholar, Contributing Fellow for the Woodrow Wilson Center, Policy Specialist Fellow at the US Embassy in Kazakhstan and as Commissioner on the US-China Economic and Security Review Commission.



Andreas conducted his PhD field research in, and published extensively on, China and the neighboring Central Asian Republics, receiving his graduate education at Georgetown Law School, Harvard University and Panteion University of Political Sciences. After clerking for a federal district judge, he practiced international law at Luce Forward. For over a decade, he has been a professor in the fields of international law and security affairs at the San Joaquin College of Law in Clovis, and is an adjunct professor at the Middlebury Institute of International Studies in Monterey.

Andreas began public service as a Fresno City Councilman and member of the Fresno County Board of Supervisors before being elected in 2018 to the California State Senate.

While originally from Phoenix, Arizona, Andreas is a proud Fresnan. He and his wife Anna, whom he met at a Starbucks in Fresno, are the proud parents of two young boys. The Borgeas family is also very involved in the local Greek and Armenian communities.

Andreas is Chair of the Senate Agriculture Committee and Vice-Chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee, with other committee assignments including Governmental Organization; Energy, Utilities and Communications; Insurance; Joint Legislative Audit; Growing Impact of Artificial Intelligence in California; California, Armenia & Artsakh Mutual Trade, Art & Cultural Exchange; Preparing California’s Future Workforce; California’s Wine Industry; and Governor’s 2019 Report: “Wildfires and Climate Change – California’s Energy Future.”

Robert M. Hertzberg, Senate Majority Leader California State Senate



Senate Majority Leader Robert Hertzberg was first elected to the California State Assembly in 1996. He then served as the 64th Speaker of the California State Assembly, unanimously elected by both parties in 2000 and 2001. After his tenure as Speaker, Hertzberg set out to the private sector as a clean energy entrepreneur and in 2014, he returned to state government when he was again elected to represent nearly 1 million people in the San Fernando Valley in the California State Senate.

Hertzberg is known for taking on the biggest and most challenging issues facing California, and for brokering some of the toughest negotiations. The *Los Angeles Times* said: “He is a high velocity wonk; he loves big ideas and will flesh out every one of them if you give him a chance.”

Hertzberg is a leader in California’s fight against climate change and its impacts like drought and wildfire. His environmental expertise and his penchant for problem solving have played a key role in his accomplishments in the Senate. Hertzberg has advanced environmental protection laws, championed clean water access, and passed legislation to prepare for droughts. In the early 2000s, he was crucial to shepherding first-in-the-nation greenhouse gas emissions standards for cars, as well as robust renewable portfolio standards.

As Chair of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Water, Hertzberg championed resource conservation standards that will guide California for generations: he oversaw the passage of a parks bond to improve and safeguard state and local parks, as well as the most significant changes to forestry protection laws in a generation. He authored legislation to avoid future drought by establishing permanent water efficiency standards and goals across the state, making water efficiency a way of life for Californians. He also fought for clean water for all in his 2021 legislation strengthening the state’s drought response in rural and small communities.

His passion for the environment extended beyond his time in the Legislature. After he termed out of the Assembly in 2002, Hertzberg became a global clean-energy entrepreneur. He helped create one of the first solar manufacturing companies in South Los Angeles. He also co-launched a company with a factory in Cardiff, Wales, and offices in London and Shenzhen, China, that produced inexpensive, lightweight solar panels for use around the world. His solar efforts received the 2005 *Wall Street Journal Award for Innovation*, in the field of energy. In recognition of his clean energy efforts in Rwanda, he received the “**World Bank Award for Lighting Africa**,” and the United Kingdom-based *Guardian Magazine* named him one of the “**50 People Who Could Save the Planet**,” he received the distinction as **100 Low Carbon Pioneers** by CNBC, and was recognized as one of the 12 individuals designated globally as a “**Force For Good Pioneer**.”

In addition to being former Chair of the Committee on Natural Resources and Water, Majority Leader Hertzberg serves on the Senate Committees on Governance and Finance; Judiciary; Elections and Constitutional Amendments; and Energy, Utilities and Communications; along with the Joint Legislative Audit Committee and Joint Legislative Rules Committee.

Nancy Skinner, Senate
California State Senate

A social justice advocate, energy and climate change trailblazer and accomplished legislator, Nancy Skinner was first elected to the state Senate in 2016 after completing three terms in the state Assembly. Senator Skinner currently serves as chair of the Senate’s Budget and Fiscal Review Committee and vice-chair of the Legislative Women’s Caucus.



Skinner has authored groundbreaking laws including SB 206, the Fair Pay to Play Act, making California the first state to give college athletes the right to earn money from their name, image, and likeness; SB 1421, opening up police misconduct records for the first time in 40 years; and SB 1437, overhauling California’s unjust felony murder rule. While in the Assembly, she authored AB 153, requiring Amazon and other internet retailers to collect sales tax; AB 1014, the first in the nation gun violence retraining order otherwise known as ‘red flag’ law; and AB 1930, giving college students access to federal food assistance, which has now been copied by most every state in the country.

Skinner began her public service in 1984 as the first and only student elected to the Berkeley City Council. On the council, Skinner introduced the nation’s first Styrofoam ban and co-founded an international association, ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability, which now includes 2,500 local and regional governments in over 125 countries. Skinner’s work at ICLEI led to the initiation of the Cities for Climate Protection program, which engaged hundreds of cities worldwide to take action to stop climate change.

Skinner is a past member of the East Bay Regional Park District board, a former small business owner, and an active advocate to increase the number of women in elected office. She served on the Board of the East Bay Women’s Political Caucus and launched the Women in Power PAC to support Democratic women running for state office.

Skinner’s Senate District includes the cities of Alameda, Albany, Berkeley, El Cerrito, Emeryville, El Sobrante, Hercules, Kensington, Oakland, Piedmont, Pinole, Richmond, Rodeo, San Leandro, and San Pablo. She is a graduate of UC Berkeley, earning both a BS and an MA.

Cecilia Aguiar-Curry, Assembly Member
California State Assembly

In November 2016, Cecilia Aguiar-Curry was elected to the California Assembly to represent the 4th District that includes all or parts of Napa, Lake, Yolo, Sonoma, Colusa and Solano counties.

Cecilia grew up in western Yolo County and has long served her community. After going to school and working in the Bay Area for several years, she moved back to her hometown of Winters where she almost immediately became active in the local community and a regional leader on several issues. She first served as planning commissioner and then was elected to the city council eventually serving as the first female mayor of Winters.



While growing up, Cecilia was surrounded by agriculture. As a youth, she cut apricots in the packing shed and helped her father in the walnut orchards in the area. She is still involved in local agriculture to this day as she and her brothers own an 80-acre walnut orchard.

After earning a degree in business administration from San Jose State University, she launched a consulting firm that specialized in public outreach with government agencies.

As mayor of Winters, Cecilia oversaw improvements in the downtown area and worked to improve local schools, including securing computers for every sixth grader in the city. She also brought broadband internet to rural communities, built senior housing and helped the area to become an agricultural and food innovation hub for the region.

With the understanding that employment is central to any successful community, Cecilia helped bring a PG& E training facility to Winters that provided hundreds of jobs for local residents.

Cecilia was also involved in efforts to create the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument in the inner California Coast Ranges that was proclaimed by President Obama in 2015.

She currently resides in Winters a block from her childhood home with her longtime partner, Larry Harris, and has a stepson and two grown daughters.

Jim Cooper, Assembly Member
California State Assembly



Assemblymember Jim Cooper proudly represents California’s 9th Assembly district, which includes the cities of Sacramento, Elk Grove, Galt, and Lodi. Cooper currently serves on several committees, including: Public Employees Retirement and Social Security Committee, Governmental Organization Committee, and Insurance Committee. Cooper also serves as Chair of the Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 4 on State Administration and the Assembly Select Committee on Community Law Enforcement Relations and Responsibilities. Cooper has also served as the Assistant Majority Leader and Assistant Majority Whip under then Speaker of the Assembly Toni Atkins.

Assemblymember Cooper has an extensive background in law enforcement and local government. Before joining the Assembly in 2014, Cooper served as a Captain in the Sacramento County Sheriff’s Department for 30 years and spent 15 years as Elk Grove’s founding mayor and councilmember. He established solid governing values, balanced the city’s budget, and built a city from the ground up.

Cooper has earned numerous awards, including the Bronze Star for Bravery for actions during the 1991 “Good Guys” hostage crisis. He also spent three years working as the Department’s spokesperson and spent nearly a decade working as an undercover narcotics officer and gang detective –investigating illegal activity to fight drug trafficking in Northern California.

Community service is a significant part of Assemblymember Cooper’s life. He has served on the boards of the Boys & Girls Club, Big Brothers Big Sisters, and the Sacramento Children’s Receiving Home. Cooper grew up in Sacramento and is a graduate of the West Point Leadership Academy and FBI National Academy. He earned a Master’s degree in Organizational Leadership from Saint Mary’s College.

Heath Flora, Assemblymember **California State Assembly**

Heath Flora is a farmer, firefighter and business owner with the kind of real world experience desperately needed in the State Assembly. He was raised on a farm and has been a small business owner and volunteer firefighter for over fifteen years.



A life-long farmer, Heath serves as a Director for International Sales at the Exact Corporation, a family-owned business that manufactures innovative products for both nut harvesting and forcible entry equipment for firefighting. Heath also owns Golden Valley Equipment which sells used agricultural equipment. Prior to entering the business world, Heath received training as a paramedic and worked for CAL FIRE for three summers.

Having served as a volunteer firefighter for over fifteen years, Heath worked his way up the ranks — serving as firefighter, engineer, Captain and now as Battalion Chief.

As a regional director for Sons of the Flag, Heath is working to bring together community leaders, pioneering physicians, experienced military service members, and dedicated first responders to advance care and treatment of long-term burn victims.

Through his church, Heath did extensive volunteer work in Cambodia where he helped build churches and English schools.

While serving in the Legislature, Heath has fought for improved public safety in California, as well as working to ensure hard-working farmers have a voice at the table. More specifically, Heath's legislation has established a statewide firefighter apprenticeship program, provided greater access to individuals' vital records, and set safety standards pertaining to electric motorized scooters. As the Minority Floor Leader, Heath ensures fairness and justness in the legislative process in the Assembly. Serving as the Vice Chairman of the Committees on Natural Resources and Labor & Employment as well as sitting on the Agriculture, Rules and Business & Professions committees, Heath is able to provide fresh perspectives to policy debates and the legislation related to these areas.

Laura Friedman, Assembly Member **California State Assembly**

Laura Friedman was elected to the California State Assembly in November 2016 to represent the 43rd Assembly District, which encompasses the cities of Burbank, Glendale, and La Cañada Flintridge, as well as the communities of La Crescenta and Montrose, and the Los Angeles neighborhoods of Atwater Village, Beachwood Canyon, Los Feliz, East Hollywood, Franklin Hills, and Silver Lake.



Laura's legislative work is focused in three primary areas: addressing the housing affordability and homelessness crisis, combating climate change, and protecting vulnerable communities. During her time in the Assembly, Laura has secured \$20 million in funding for the completion of the Glendale Riverwalk Project, and authored a package of bills to create new avenues for communities to tackle the affordable housing crisis, encourage water conservation, strengthen environmental sustainability, protect communities against devastating wildfires, improve access to higher education and health care, and ensure that California's foster youth have the support that they need as they transition to adulthood.

Laura has been tapped for several leadership roles in the legislature, including the Chair of the Assembly Natural Resources Committee, Assistant Speaker pro Tempore for the Assembly, the Chair of the Assembly Select Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, and the Chair of the Joint Rules Subcommittee on Sexual Harassment Prevention and Response where she's led a historic bicameral and bipartisan reform of the legislature's response to sexual harassment that's become a model for other states and local governments to follow.

Long recognized as a steadfast advocate for the environment, sustainable communities, and active transportation, in 2020 she was appointed to serve as the Chair for the Assembly Committee on Transportation. The Committee's broad scope covers high-speed rail, California's thousands of miles of roadways and transportation infrastructure, freight and regional transportation agencies, mobile sources of air pollution, fuels, mass transit, vehicles, aircraft, bicycles and pedestrian facilities, and vessels, as well as the California Department of Transportation and the Department of Motor Vehicles. Laura's appointment as Chair marks a shift towards forward-thinking policies such as investing in mass transit, bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure, zero-emission vehicles, road safety, and sustainability.

In addition to her role at the helm of the Assembly Transportation Committee, Laura also serves as Chair of the bicameral Environmental Caucus, and as a member of the Assembly Committees on Arts, Entertainment, Sports, Tourism, and Internet Media; Natural Resources; and Water, Parks, and Wildlife.

Laura got her start in the private sector working as a film and television executive and producer after receiving her B.A. from the University of Rochester, New York. In 2001, she launched her own web-based small business. Building on her years of community service, she was elected to the Glendale City Council in 2009, served as Mayor from 2011 through 2012 and was re-elected in 2013.

Throughout her career, she's served on a number of boards and commissions. She served for seven years on the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. She is a Past President of the Independent Cities Association, was a Hollywood-Burbank Airport Commissioner, and a Board Member of the Southern California Association of Governments where she was a member of the Energy and Environment Committee. Laura also spent five years on the Glendale Design Review Board.

Laura is a Glendale resident and lives with her husband Guillaume Lemoine, a landscape designer, and their daughter Rachel.

Chris Holden, Assembly Member **California State Assembly**



Assemblymember Chris Holden brings to the legislature a lifetime of experience in public service and business garnered during his many years on the Pasadena City Council and the Burbank-Glendale-Pasadena Airport Authority. He was first elected to the California State Assembly in 2012, and was overwhelmingly re-elected in 2014, 2016, and 2018 from a district that stretches from Pasadena in the West to Upland in the East and includes the communities of Altadena, Claremont, La Verne, Monrovia, Rancho Cucamonga, San Dimas, Sierra Madre, and South Pasadena.

While in office Holden has authored legislation to save developmental disability services, protect public health, and preserve civil rights. He supports legislation that grows our economy, protects our environments, strengthens our infrastructure and supports working families.

On developmental disabilities, Holden successfully lead efforts to keep developmentally disability service providers open and funded at appropriate levels. He fought to increase reimbursement rates for developmental disability service providers in cities that had minimum wage laws that outpaced the State's. Now with a \$25 million dollar increase in the budget, that would be matched with federal funds, there is \$50 million dollars for bridge funding to retain vital services for individuals and families living with disabilities including autism, Down syndrome, cerebral palsy, and intellectual disabilities.

On children's health, Holden passed legislation that expands lead testing in drinking water within California's childcare centers. The legislation also requires child care providers to receive instruction on the risks of and how to prevent lead exposure, and requires them to give parents written information about childhood blood lead testing requirements.

On civil rights, Holden passed a bill that requires the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to include information in the California Driver's Handbook regarding a person's civil rights during a traffic stop.

After the wildfires in 2017, Holden served as co-chair of the Wildfire Preparedness and Response Legislative Conference Committee with his colleague, Senator Bill Dodd. The Committee passed legislation to provide comprehensive safety solutions to make the electricity system safer and protect ratepayers. The legislation also protects wildfire victims' rights in civil actions and bans the use of ratepayer funds for executive compensation or perks. As Chair of Assembly Committee on Utilities and Energy, Holden will continue to seek solutions to California's wildfire crisis.

Locally, Holden established himself as a leader in strengthening the economic vitality of the San Gabriel Valley by organizing a transportation roundtable with Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti and the Mayors of 11 other cities to discuss the transportation priorities for the area, including the future of the Metro Gold Line extension. For the past four years, as Chair of the Assembly Select Committee on Regional Transportation Solutions, Holden held hearings to discuss timely transportation issues for the region and the State. The hearings, attended by hundreds, included local and state government officials and transportation experts that discussed issues regarding funding solutions, active transportation and managing regional growth.

Holden currently chairs the Assembly Committee on Utilities and Energy. Additional committee assignments include Business & Professions, Communications and Conveyance, Environmental Safety

and Toxic Materials, and Judiciary. He is Chair of the Select Committee on Regional Transportation and Interconnectivity Solutions and sits on the Advisory Committee of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy. He also serves on the Select Committee on Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Education and is an Alliance member of the Select Committee on the Status of Boys & Men of Color. From 2016 to 2018, he was Chair of the California Legislative Black Caucus.

Prior to his election to the Assembly, Holden served 24 years as a Pasadena City Councilmember and Mayor. He was the youngest City Councilmember at age 28 and only the second African American to serve as Mayor. Throughout his years of public service, Holden has been a champion in creating jobs, preserving vital services, strengthening the economic vitality of the San Gabriel Valley and expanding the light rail. While on the City Council, Holden served as a Commissioner and President of the Burbank-Glendale-Pasadena Airport Authority and on the Pasadena Light Rail Alignment Task Force.

Holden owns CHMB Consulting, a real estate firm and is a former owner of a Subway franchise. He is a lifelong resident of the district and graduate of San Diego State University. He lives in Pasadena with his wife, Melanie, and children Nicholas, Alexander, Austin, Mariah and Noah. Holden is the son of former State Senator and LA City Councilman Nate Holden.

Jim Wood, Assembly Member
California State Assembly



I was elected in 2014 and am proud to serve the people in California's 2nd Assembly District, which comprises all of Del Norte, Trinity, Humboldt, and Mendocino counties, plus northern and coastal Sonoma County, including the northern half of Santa Rosa.

Northern California has been my home since 1987, when I opened my family dental practice in Cloverdale. I began my public service when I was elected to the Healdsburg City Council in 2006, serving two terms as mayor. My goals, in that position, were to make local government more effective and efficient through reorganizing city departments, balancing the budget, working on environmental and health issues, and streamlining the building permit process. During my time as mayor, we were able to pass a local ordinance prohibiting the sale of tobacco to anyone younger than 21.

I decided to run for the Assembly in 2013 to expand my public service beyond my hometown to affect public policy at the state level. Once elected to the Assembly, my priorities were environmental protection, economic development and health care. I have been chair of the Assembly Health Committee since early 2016.

In my first four years in the Assembly, I have been successful in passing legislation to protect and expand access to medical, dental and mental health care in rural areas, make progress in reducing the costs of prescription drugs by curbing the marketing practices of pharmaceutical companies and increasing public transparency in how they set prices; protect residents of nursing homes from closures and ensure that owners of nursing homes disclose their related businesses; prevent patients from receiving surprise medical bills, increase the age to 21 for the purchase of tobacco products and begin the process of identifying how California can provide health care to all. Last year, I passed legislation to address the opioid epidemic and obtained funding to establish a council to map a path to a unified financing system for health care for all. Following the devastating wildfires of 2017, I worked in a bipartisan way to obtain \$1 billion for much needed vegetation management to help prevent wildlands from fires. I also passed legislation to protect consumers from price gouging following declared disasters and obtained funding to stabilize school's ADA funding when students are displaced due to a disaster.

I also passed legislation to protect the environment including funding for managing our working lands and forests, protecting our watershed from abuse, and obtained funding to clean up environmental damage from illegal cannabis grows. Cannabis continues to be a significant part of Northern California's economy and I was, and continue to be, involved in the development of medical cannabis regulations to protect small farmers and ensure that rules and licensing processes are accessible to small businesses.

A top priority for 2019 is helping to facilitate the rebuilding of homes and businesses following the fires that have devastated California communities in the past two years, creating opportunities for homeowners to harden their homes and improving vegetation management by providing incentives to homeowners and better managing open spaces. I am continuing efforts to improve health care, address the need for cost containment, reduce the cost of prescription drugs and take more steps toward providing health coverage for all Californians. I am committed to protecting the environment, improving our emergency response notification systems, expanding broadband infrastructure in rural areas, addressing the housing shortage and confronting one of our country's most serious health issues -- opioids.

In addition to my work in the state Legislature, I am proud to serve as a forensic dentistry expert consultant for five Northern California counties. I established a mass disaster identification team in California and helped pass state legislation to standardize county identification procedures, a model now adopted by other states. I am called regularly to support efforts in several Northern California counties and had the honor to assist in many disasters including 9/11, Hurricane Katrina, the Valley Fire in Lake County and the tragic wildfires in northern California in hopes that my service provides some closure to family and loved ones.



Andrew R. Baldonado

Managing Director, State Public Affairs
Southern California Edison

Andrew Baldonado is managing director of State Public Affairs at Southern California Edison (SCE), one of the nation's largest electric utilities. He is responsible for developing policy and strategies to advocate the company's position on critical state matters and overseeing the state public affairs team in Sacramento. He also directs political engagement and represents the company with several business and political organizations.

Previously, Baldonado led the State Government Affairs team at Anheuser-Busch, based in New York City. He started at Anheuser-Busch as director, local government affairs in 1998 in Los Angeles, was promoted to region vice president in 2005 based in Sacramento and was named vice president, state government affairs in 2010. At Anheuser-Busch, Baldonado managed the state governments affairs team, along with contract lobbyists in all 50 states. Key issues included sales & marketing, taxation, manufacturing and environmental sustainability. He also was responsible for engagement with state attorneys generals and Democratic/Republican Governors Associations.

Baldonado has served on the board of directors of the National Association of Latino Elected Officials (NALEO) Education Fund and the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Foundation.

He graduated from the University of California at Los Angeles with a degree in Political Science, and was selected as a Coro Fellow in Los Angeles. He resides in Sacramento with his wife Susan and they have two children.

MELISSA BRANDT
East Bay Community Energy



Melissa oversees East Bay Community Energy's participation in regulatory proceedings at the California Public Utilities Commission, California Energy Commission, California Air Resources Board, and California Independent System Operator on strategic issues that affect EBCE. She directs EBCE's involvement in California legislative matters that impact EBCE. Melissa has nearly fifteen years of experience in the energy industry. Prior to joining the EBCE team, Melissa led a team of regulatory case managers at PG&E. She previously led greenhouse gas commercial strategy and cap-and-trade procurement efforts and negotiated long-term electric power purchase agreements. She began her career in the federal government as a Presidential Management Fellow at the Bureau of Land Management and the State Department, and as a civil servant at the Office of Management and Budget. Melissa holds a B.A. in Environmental Sciences from U.C. Berkeley, a Juris Doctor from Columbia University, and a Master of Public Administration from Harvard's Kennedy School of Government. She is a member of the State Bar of California.

Johnny Casana

Director of Strategy

Pattern Energy

Johnny Casana directs Corporate Strategy and New Markets for Pattern Energy, which is one of the largest renewable energy companies to be founded and headquartered in California and a global leader in the industry. Mr. Casana has developed over 2,500 MW of wind and solar energy projects including 1,800 MW serving more than 30 million end-use energy customers in California. He has over a decade of experience leading California regulatory and legislative affairs for Pattern Energy, Energias De Portugal Renováveis (EDPR) and Horizon Wind Energy, and he currently serves in multiple industry leadership positions including Chair of State Policy for the American Clean Power Association. Prior to his work in the private sector Mr. Casana was an Anthropologist for the U.S. Federal Government with expertise in Latin America. Pattern Energy operates more than 5,000 MW of wind, solar and energy storage facilities globally, including offshore wind projects in Japan, and the company has constructed multiple high-voltage clean power lines including the TransBay Cable in San Francisco, and Western Spirit and Western Interconnect which together deliver 1.6 GW of Pattern Energy's New Mexico wind to California.



*Johnny Casana,
Director of Strategy*

Pattern Energy

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Rodney M. Cobos
Business Manager Financial Secretary Treasurer
Southern California Pipe Trades, District Council No. 16



Rodney Cobos, Business Manager Financial Secretary Treasurer for the Southern California Pipe Trades, District Council 16, a Piping Industry Union Organization representing 17,000 Plumbers, Steamfitters, Welders, H.V.A.C. Mechanics, Landscape Irrigation and Fire Sprinkler Fitters and Apprentices.

After proudly serving four years in the United States Army and honorable discharged as an E-5 Sergeant, Rodney joined the United Association of Plumbers and Steamfitters Local Union 484 located in Ventura, California in 1994. He made an early decision as a member of the Local to become actively involved in the organization. He completed his five year apprenticeship and holds certifications in both plumbing and pipefitting. He is a certified tester in water backflow assemblies, earning a certificate of completion from University of Southern California Foundation for Cross Connection Controls.

In 2000, Rodney was elected by the membership to serve on the Local Union's Finance Committee and in 2002 elected President. He was appointed Business Representative in 2003 and in 2007 was elected Business Manager/Financial Secretary Treasurer and held this position until going to work for District Council 16 in October of 2015. In March 2019 Rodney was elected as Business Manager Financial Secretary Treasurer of the Southern California Pipe Trades. He also serves as a trustee on multiple trust funds with the Southern California Pipe Trades Administrative Corporation.

Rodney has served as President and is currently the Vice President South of the California State Pipe Trades Council. He is an Executive Board Member of the California State Building and Construction Trades Council.

In September 2020, Rodney was appointed to the California State Contractors License Board as a public member.

He was the chairman of the Ventura County Plumbers and Steamfitters Joint Apprenticeship Committee. He was actively involved in the Tri-Counties Building and Construction Trades Council, serving as their Vice-President. He has participated in community and labor alliance roundtables and has chaired the local high school Bond Oversight Committee.

Rodney and his wife Heidi live with their four children Zach, Raymond, George and his favorite and only daughter Audrey, in Santa Paula, California.

Lenneal Gardner
Trans Bay Cable



Lenneal Gardner has over ten years of experience in the public utility industry. He is currently the Business and Regulatory Manager of Trans Bay Cable LLC (TBC), the owner and operator of a 53-mile submarine high voltage direct current transmission system located in the Bay Area of California. Mr. Gardner was previously TBC's corporate counsel and Chief Compliance Officer. In his current position, he manages TBC's regulatory affairs and compliance, G&A

budgeting, and supports capital projects planning and execution, and rate case prosecution.

Mr. Gardner has a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from New York University and a juris doctorate from the University of California, Davis.



Avis Kowalewski
Vice President – Western Government and Regulatory Affairs
Calpine Corporation



Avis Kowalewski is Vice President of Western Government and Regulatory Affairs of Calpine Corporation with responsibility for advocating Calpine's position before state regulatory agencies in California and the western states on electricity, natural gas and environmental issues. Ms. Kowalewski directs Calpine's participation in numerous regulatory proceedings with particular emphasis on utility procurement and natural gas regulation. She joined Calpine in 2001 as a Senior Natural Gas Regulatory Specialist and filled the roles of Regulatory Affairs Manager and Director prior to being named Vice President.

Ms. Kowalewski began her professional career at Pacific Gas and Electric Company, working on gas pipeline regulatory issues, electric transmission access issues, revenue and load forecasting and other strategic planning initiatives regarding utility gas and electric procurement.

Ms. Kowalewski is the Treasurer of the Power Association of Northern California and is also active in the Western Power Trading Forum, the California Independent Energy Producers Association and the Northwest Independent Power Producers Coalition. She also served six years on the Board of Directors for BlueSkies4Children with two years as Chair of the Board.

She holds a master's degree in economics from the University of California at Santa Barbara and a bachelor's degree in mathematical economics from the University of Wyoming, where she was selected Phi Beta Kappa.

Calpine is a premier independent power producer. Founded in 1984 in San Jose, California, Calpine owns and operates 78 power plants with generation capacity of approximately 26,000 MW located in 23 States. In California, Calpine owns and operates 33 power plants, including 13 facilities at The Geysers, the world's largest geothermal electricity resource, and approximately 6,425 MW natural gas fired generation. Calpine recently commissioned two utility-scale battery storage projects in California. Looking forward and building on its history of environmental leadership, Calpine is investing in cutting edge technologies to capture and permanently sequester carbon emissions. Two carbon capture pilot projects located at Calpine's Los Medanos Energy Center in Pittsburg, California, will come on line in the first part of 2022. The company has an active pipeline of development projects for geothermal, battery storage, solar, and conventional generation.

In addition to its power generation business, Calpine provides direct access service to commercial and industrial customers throughout California and the United States through its subsidiary, Calpine Energy Solutions.



CARA MARTINSON



Cara Martinson is the Senior Director of Regulatory and Political Affairs for NextEra Energy Resources, America's largest Independent Power Producer. In this role, Cara directs and manages a legislative and regulatory portfolio for 10 western states to advance renewable energy interests across the West.

Prior to joining NextEra Energy in 2020, Cara spent more than a decade representing county government in front of the California Legislature and regulatory agencies as a Senior Legislative Representative with the California State Association of Counties (CSAC). Her advocacy portfolio included a wide range of environmental issues, from energy to water to waste management.

Cara has also served as a Sacramento County Planning Commissioner since 2015, and is the current chair of the Commission.

Cara started her career as a research analyst for a defense contracting firm in the Boston area, examining topics in national security. She holds a bachelor's degree in political science and French from San Diego State University, and a master's degree in politics from Brandeis University.

ANTONIO SANCHEZ

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union 11

Antonio Sanchez is the Political Director for International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union 11, where he leads the day-to-day political operations for the organization's 12,000 members, including 2,000 apprentices.

His work and passion lead him to interact with various government agencies and private business to help create jobs that are local, family-sustaining, and help reduce our carbon footprint. In addition to having worked within state and local government, he has served on numerous boards and commissions.

Antonio earned a Master's in Urban and Regional Planning at the UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs and graduated cum laude, with honors with a bachelor's degree in anthropology from Cal State Northridge.

Dan Skopec, Senior VP, State Gov't Affairs & Chief Regulatory Office
SDG&E and SoCalGas



Dan Skopec is senior vice president of state government affairs and chief regulatory officer for Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas) and San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E), Sempra Energy's regulated California utilities. He is responsible for the company's engagement with regulators and policymakers at the state, legislative and executive branch levels.

Skopec joined SDG&E and SoCalGas in 2008 as vice president, regulatory affairs. Prior to that, he served as undersecretary at the California Environmental Protection Agency, deputy cabinet secretary under California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, and as a legislative aide in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Skopec holds a master's degree in international economics from The George Washington University and a bachelor's degree in political science and European history from the University of California, San Diego. Skopec serves on the board of directors of the California Foundation on the Environment and the Economy and the California State Parks Foundation.

**Jan Smutny-Jones, Chief Executive Officer
Independent Energy Producers Association**

Jan Smutny-Jones is Chief Executive Officer of the Independent Energy Producers Association (IEP) located in Sacramento, California. Jan Smutny-Jones has represented IEP since 1987.



Mr. Smutny-Jones has been a pivotal player in the California restructuring efforts, market reform and global climate change policy. He has served as Chair of the Governing Board of the California Independent System Operator, and as a member of the Governing Board of the California Power Exchange. Currently, he is serving as a member of the California Air Resources Board's Economic and Technology Advancement Advisory Committee for Climate Change.

Mr. Smutny-Jones is a graduate of Loyola Law School and is a member of the American, California State and Sacramento County Bar Associations. He did his undergraduate work at California State University, Long Beach, and has a certificate in Environmental Management from the University of Southern California. He is on the Board of Directors of the Renewable Certification Program "Green-E". He also serves on the Yolo Basin Foundation.

Tom Starrs
Vice President, Government Affairs
EDP Renewables, North America

Tom Starrs serves as vice president, government affairs for EDP Renewables, North America, where he is responsible for managing EDPR's government and regulatory affairs throughout North America, including policy analysis, policy advocacy, PAC management, political engagement, and trade association and NGO representation. Tom has more than 25 years of experience in renewable energy, including senior management positions with SunPower Corporation, Iberdrola Renewables (now Avangrid), PPM Energy, the Bonneville Environmental Foundation, and RWE Schott Solar. Tom is widely recognized as a leading strategist on renewable energy market development, business strategy, and policy. He serves on the board of directors of the Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA) and the Center for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Technologies (CEERT). He also serves on the advisory board of the Rocky Mountain Institute's Electricity Innovation Laboratory (eLab). Starrs holds a Ph.D. from the Energy and Resources Program at the University of California, Berkeley; and a J.D. from the School of Law at the University of California, Berkeley. He lives in Portland, Oregon.



Beth Vaughan, Executive Director
California Community Choice Association



Beth Vaughan is Executive Director of the California Community Choice Association (CalCCA). CalCCA supports the state's community choice aggregators through regulatory and legislative advocacy and by providing technical guidance. Prior to assuming this role in October 2017, she was executive director of the California Cogeneration Council advocating for companies operating combined heat and power projects in California.

Ms. Vaughan brings expertise in both the public and private energy sectors. She has consulted with government agencies, non-profits, and private sector interests on energy and environmental public policy issues. Ms. Vaughan served five years as senior advisor to environment and conservation cabinet ministers in the New Zealand parliament. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Queen's University in Canada, and Master of Science from Victoria University of Wellington in New Zealand.

**Jay Ziegler, Director of External Affairs and Policy
The Nature Conservancy**

Jay Ziegler oversees the California chapter's engagements with governments and other stakeholders at the state, county, and local levels. He helps develop and direct implementation of Conservancy strategies on public policy, legislation, regulatory matters, campaigns, and constituency building. Prior to joining the Conservancy, Mr. Ziegler founded and was principal of Ziegler Associates, a multi-disciplinary public affairs firm focusing on environmental issues, land use, regulatory matters and clean technology.



Before that, he worked extensively at the state and federal levels, serving in communications, policy and advocacy roles. He also has substantial campaign experience in California. Mr. Ziegler has served as a senior counselor to policy makers in the State Capitol and Washington, D.C. He worked in both communications and government affairs roles within the Clinton Administration, and served as Special Assistant to Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt for Intergovernmental Affairs, where he was integrally involved in policy coordination on a number of complex natural resource policy issues, such as endangered species and habitat conservation programs across the West. He holds a B.A. in political science-public service from U.C. Davis.

Jay Hansen, President and CEO

California Foundation on the Environment and the Economy

Jay Hansen is President and CEO of the California Foundation on the Environment and the Economy (CFEE), a non-profit institution that works with California state legislators, state and regulatory agencies, and our Board and guests to build consensus on our state's pressing issues of energy, water, housing, transportation, and telecommunications and technology.



Prior to CFEE, Hansen worked at the California Medical Association as their Chief Strategy Officer. He also served as the CEO of their Foundation, Physicians for a Healthy California which he led through a major rebranding effort resulting in significant growth and establishing the leadership of California's physicians in promoting our state's health.

Jay has a long record in the world of politics and public policy. He served ten years as the Legislative and Political Director for the California State Building and Construction Trades Council, AFL-CIO representing 350,000 construction workers before the State Legislature. Prior, he spent eight years as Special Assistant to the Speaker for four different California Assembly Speakers including Willie Brown and Bob Hertzberg.

As a native Californian, Jay is dedicated to promoting and advancing the interests of our residents and state. He attended Occidental College for his Bachelors in Psychology and the University of Southern California (USC) for his Masters in Public Administration. Jay served on the Occidental College Board of Governors for many years and currently serves on the USC Sacramento Center Advisory Board.

His public service includes many appointments and elections to boards and commissions. Jay recently completed six years on the Sacramento School Board where he served as President among other positions. He served eight years as the Governor's appointee to the California Health Facilities Financing Authority (CHFFA) having been unanimously confirmed twice by the California State Senate. In his years of service, Jay has been as an appointee of the State Controller, the Assembly Speaker, the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, and the Secretary of State to a variety of Commissions and Boards.

An avid swimmer and traveler, Jay also enjoys his many friends and family. And as a master griller and wine connoisseur, his dinner invitations are always well received. Jay and his husband Jesse live in California's capital - Sacramento.

**Celeste Cremen, International Project Manager & Conference Coordinator
California Foundation on the Environment and the Economy**

Celeste Cremen joined CFEE, the California Foundation on the Environment and the Economy, in 1995 as a Conference Coordinator. She has coordinated more than seventy-five conferences for CFEE on topics that include telecommunications, economic growth, energy and the environment.



Her responsibilities include the recruitment of participants, site advance work, CFEE board relations and overall program coordination. In addition, she coordinated CFEE's study travel project delegations to Asia, Europe, Australia, New Zealand, South America and Africa. Prior to joining CFEE, Celeste spent sixteen years with the Emporium division of Federated Department Stores. Her last position was as a regional manager of special events for Emporium's twenty-two stores.

Celeste graduated from Chico State University with a degree in Liberal Arts and holds a teaching credential from San Francisco State University. She lives in San Francisco with her husband Jack and sons Casey and Joey. She is active in many school and community organizations.

Wyatt Lundy, Research Director
California Foundation on the Environment and the Economy



Wyatt Lundy is the Research Director at the California Foundation on the Environment and the Economy (CFEE) where he is responsible for the policy content of the Foundation’s roundtable dialogues, multi-party workshops, and international study travel projects. At these forums, CFEE convenes policymakers and subject matter experts to examine the issues of energy, housing, telecommunications and technologies, transportation, water, and the circular economy.

Wyatt works with CFEE Board Members, the President & CEO, and policymakers to develop agendas, briefing materials, and other policy documents that support CFEE’s mission of non-partisan engagement and education of state leaders – a group that includes California State Legislators, regulators, administration officials as well as the Foundation’s coalition of labor, environmental, business, and local government leaders. Wyatt also staffs the CFEE Board and its governance committees as they oversee the Foundation’s affairs and its budget.

His previous experience includes working for the Mayor's Office of Los Angeles as well as managing researching projects at the University of Southern California and the California Foundation for Commerce and Education. He joined CFEE to support their mission of facilitating informed dialogue between key state leaders as they deliberate on policies and projects with long-term environmental and economic impacts for the state of California.

As the son of park rangers, Wyatt grew up in National Parks in Arizona, Utah, and Oregon. This upbringing shaped his understanding for the need of smart stewardship of our shared resources to ensure that future generations can benefit from our wild spaces and natural lands.

Wyatt is a Phi Beta Kappa alumnus of the University of Michigan where he received a B.A. in History with High Distinction. He later earned his Master of Public Policy from the University of Southern California, graduating as a Dean’s Merit Scholar and a Phi Kappa Phi inductee.