

FCL NEWSLETTER



VOL. 56, NO. 4

FRIENDS COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION

Jul./Aug. 2007

Redistricting: Red Alert or Red Herring?

By Lesley McNiesh

Currently, the California Legislature is in charge of drawing its own districts, a system that minimizes the influence of political minorities and creates “safe” (non-competitive) districts. As a result, legislators face little political opposition and therefore do not have to respond effectively to broad-based constituencies. Safe districts results in a Legislature that is more polarized than their constituencies. The lack of a viable center which can broker compromises results in legislative stalemates and straight party-line votes (witness California’s lengthy budget impasse) as legislators cater to their political base rather than the public. Districts drawn for political advantage often disregard geographical boundaries. This creates difficulties for local governments as jurisdictions normally represented by one Assembly Member may be represented by several.

A California Common Cause report, “Designer Districts,” found that when judges redrew California districts in 1990, competition increased significantly. Competitive elections that encourage elected officials to address the concerns of *all* voters—instead of the party faithful—are the fulfillment of the ideal of representative government. They also effectively

(Continued on next page)



The original gerrymander: electoral district drawn by Massachusetts Governor Elbridge Gerry’s Democratic-Republicans in the shape of a salamander in order to disadvantage the Federalist party.

In This Issue ...

Budget Impasse Ends	page 4
Whatever Happened To.....	page 6
FCL Bay Area Dinner	page 8

“The Friends Committee on Legislation (FCL), guided by Quaker values, advocates for California state laws that are just, compassionate, and respectful of the inherent worth of every person.”

Redistricting: Red Alert or Red Herring? (Continued from page 1)

constitute term limits, as unsatisfactory legislators can be voted out of office.

There have been several failed attempts to change redistricting procedures in recent years. The most notable among them was Governor Schwarzenegger's Proposition 77, which failed along with the rest of his initiatives in the 2005 Special Election. This failure indicates only dissatisfaction with Proposition 77, not opposition to redistricting in general. The League of Women Voters and California Common Cause, along with the Rose Institute commissioned a poll that found that 66 percent of California voters are in favor of redistricting by an independent commission.

Current redistricting proposals differ from Proposition 77 in several key ways. Proposition 77 called for three retired judges to redraw districts, giving rise to concerns that such a panel could not reflect California's diversity. Current redistricting proposals include more members and call for a commission that reflects the state's geographic, racial, ethnic, and gender diversity. Similarly, Proposition 77's lack of accountability and public input was a major sticking point, whereas current proposals all include measures for allowing public input throughout the process. Proposition 77 also called for an immediate mid-decade redistricting. Current proposals restrict redistricting to immediately following the census that occurs every decade, as is the standard. Several organizations, including the League of Women Voters, opposed Proposition 77 for these reasons but are supporting the current proposals.

While California Common Cause and the League of Women Voters are pushing impartial redistricting for good government, the debate in the Capitol is not without the usual political jockeying and maneuvering. Governor Schwarzenegger says he will support modifying term limits only if paired with redistricting reform. The governor has argued that "the current system is rigged to benefit the interests of those

in office and not those who put them there." The fact that Schwarzenegger began campaigning for redistricting reform in the wake of a national controversy over mid-decade, partisan gerrymandering in Texas and Colorado in 2003 (the latter was overturned by Colorado courts), cast doubts on the governor's motives in some quarters.

Even though the linking of redistricting to modifying term limits is clearly some self-interested political bargaining, the results are probably favorable to voters. Under current law, lawmakers can serve a total of 14 years, six in the Assembly (three terms) and eight in the Senate (two terms). An initiative on the February 2008 ballot would reduce the years a legislator can serve to 12, but would allow them to be served in one house (six terms in the Assembly, three in the Senate), in effect, lengthening terms for current officeholders.

Considering the importance of expertise and institutional memory, as well as the lengthy time it takes to formulate legislative solutions to complex problems, term limits are excessively strict and discourage long-range thinking. In 2007, there were a record 48 new members of the Legislature thanks to term limits. Of those, 34 had never served in either house. Many legislators, when deciding whether to add 53,000 new prison and jail beds, had little or no exposure to the issue before casting their vote earlier this year (see "Prison deal: 'seismic shift' is a giant step backwards," *FCL Newsletter*, April-May, 2007). Redistricting reform could alleviate some of the concerns that have led to term limits by making it easier for voters to remove an incumbent who isn't responsive.

The key features of the redistricting proposals include the selection criteria for the redistricting commission, requirements for diversity of the commission, the commission's accountability to the public, and guidelines for redrawing the districts. All of the

proposed reforms require the creation of districts that respect the geographical integrity of cities, counties and regions to the extent possible.

SELECTION: Assembly Constitutional Amendment (ACA1), Curren Price, D., Oakland, calls for the nine-member Little Hoover Commission to appoint the redistricting commission, and is considered the least independent. The governor appoints five members of the Commission, with the other four being appointed by the Legislature. Assembly Minority Leader Mike Villines, R., Clovis, the author of ACA 4, another redistricting proposal, argues that this method of selection would not ensure the elimination of safe legislative districts. However, one problem with random selection of commission members (the process is similar to jury selection), as called for by ACA 4, is that redistricting requires specialized knowledge. If commissioners are not qualified, the redistricting process could default to consultants and staff, making the composition of the commission irrelevant. A lack of specialized knowledge also leaves plans vulnerable to legal challenges.

DIVERSITY: All of the proposals call for ethnic, racial, geographic, and gender diversity, but economic diversity may be more of a problem—only some of the proposals provide compensation to the commissioners, which is necessary to allow low income citizens to serve. In terms of political diversity, ACA 1 is the only proposal that doesn't guarantee equal representation of the two largest political parties; it does require that no more than four of the nine members belong to the same party.

ACCOUNTABILITY: All of the proposals have procedures for allowing public input to the redistricting process. ACA 4 requires redistricting plans to be approved by the voters. Of course, all redistricting plans may be subjected to judicial review in the event of court challenges.

GUIDELINES: All proposals require compliance with the federal Voting Rights Act (VRA), which includes provisions to ensure that minority votes can-

not be diluted through redistricting. The National Association of Latino Elected Officials fears that prohibiting the consideration of registration and voting history will interfere with the application of the VRA. Another concern is that while the inclusion of competitiveness as a criterion for redrawing districts in ACA 4 seems good, it would be another example of drawing districts based on politics rather than people.

Senate Constitutional Amendment (SCA 9), by Roy Ashburn, R., Bakersfield, does not include Congressional districts; this absence can be construed as a political choice to avoid opposition from Democrats or as a response to the fact that California's Representatives are part of a larger body and congressional redistricting could dilute California's interests if California were the only state to realign congressional districts. There are currently federal house bills circulating that propose independent redistricting commissions in every state, including the Redistricting Reform Act of 2007 (Lofgren, D., CA, San Jose). Representative Lofgren says California is "very advantaged" by the Congressional electorate and by having the Speaker of the House; it would be inadvisable to surrender those advantages while other states retain the ability to manipulate their districts.

All of the measures would go a long way towards making legislators more responsive and accountable. They might even decrease the polarization and partisan bickering that makes it hard to have a real discussion on the tougher issues facing our state. However, redistricting reform, by itself, is not a panacea. If coupled with other reforms like public financing of elections, requiring free television and radio time for candidates and modifying term limits, lawmaking in California would be more responsive to the needs of all Californians instead of the wants of narrow special interests. ☺

FCL intern Lesley McNiesh is senior majoring in political science at Swarthmore College in Pennsylvania. Contact Lesley via the FCL office.

Giving Online: For your convenience, donations to FCL may be made online. Please complete our **secure online donation form** located on our website, www.fclca.org. You can mail your donation to 717 K Street, Suite 500B, Sacramento, CA 95814-3408.

Budget impasse ends, February ballot taking shape

Senate Democrats and Republicans agreed on a budget that was signed into law by the governor on August 24th, 55 days into the new fiscal year. Governor Schwarzenegger hinted that he might support amending the State Constitution to require only a simple majority to enact a budget. California is one of only three states to require a two-thirds supermajority to pass a budget, the others being Rhode Island and Arkansas.

The governor, who was largely absent from budget negotiations, is understandably upset. The budget stalemate has all but derailed his plans to accomplish major health care reform this year. Though he has threatened to keep the Legislature in a special session after the September 14th adjournment, he cannot compel the Legislature to do anything during a special session. Most political insiders concede that it will be very hard to pass any major health care reform in 2008 because it is an election year.

Despite Schwarzenegger's angst toward the Republican caucus, he made good on his promise to use his line-item veto authority to reduce spending by \$703 million in order to secure Republican votes for the budget. Tax cuts for the motion picture industry and the airline industry that were passed by the Assembly were rejected in the final budget deal.

The budget accord rejected a proposal by Governor Schwarzenegger to eliminate CalWORKS (cash assistance) benefits to 200,000 children whose parents are not complying with federal work requirement guidelines (see "Budget impasse: punishing children for the 'sins' of their parents," *FCL Newsletter*, May/June 2007). For the third year in a row, CalWORKS recipients will not receive a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA), and SSI/SSP (aid to blind, elderly and disabled) recipients will have their COLA delayed for six months. The new budget also shifts \$1.2 billion in transportation funds into the General Fund and

reduces funding for Proposition 36 (drug treatment in lieu of incarceration) by \$25 million. Senate Republicans had proposed totally eliminating funding for Proposition 36.

The governor reduced \$55 million from the Integrated Services for Adults with Serious Mental Illness Programs. The governor claims that the program, which provides wraparound services for homeless adults suffering from serious mental illness, can be funded by Proposition 63 revenues. In 2004, California voters passed Proposition 63 to expand mental health services by imposing a one percent income tax surcharge on the wealthiest Californians. Language in Proposition 63 prohibits the use of its revenues to supplant existing mental health services. The supplanting of Proposition 63 funds may be challenged in court.

Schwarzenegger, who has made health care his top priority, reduced \$10 million in funding for health clinics which serve the uninsured. The governor also vetoed \$6.3 million in funding for discounted prescription drugs for families and individuals with incomes less than 300 percent of the federal poverty level.

The governor signed **SB 81**, the corrections budget trailer bill, which will require the Department of Juvenile Justice (formerly the California Youth Authority) to end the intake of juveniles convicted of nonviolent, non-serious offenses who will remain in the custody of counties. Funding from the sale of lease-revenue bonds will be provided to counties to construct facilities with the state kicking in \$24 million to provide services, increasing to \$92 million by fiscal year 2008-2009. Adults released on parole who were convicted of nonviolent, non-serious offenses will also become the responsibilities of counties. Funding for medical, mental health and dental services for prisoners will be increased by \$526 million as the result of federal lawsuits.

California to phase-out prison telephone concession, reduce fees for families

Concessions placed on phone calls made by prisoners will be phased out over four years thanks to some hard work by the California Catholic Conference and FCL. In California, the contract vendor for providing payphone services to prisoners pays the state's General Fund a concession of \$26 million per year. California prisoners are only allowed to make collect calls.

The \$26 million concession to the state's General Fund has been of utmost concern to the Statewide Family Council, as it was paid for by charging the families of the incarcerated connect fees and rates often double those of collect calls not placed from prisons. In essence, the concession amounts to a tax on the families of the incarcerated.

Because most California prisons are located far away from the state's urban centers, which makes visitation hard for many families, the telephone takes on added importance. Research has consistently demonstrated that maintaining the bond between families and prisoners is a key to reducing recidivism.

Previous efforts to eliminate the concession were unsuccessful. In 2004, FCL supported AB 230, by Mark Leno, D., San Francisco, to eliminate the \$26 million concession from consideration when the state awards a bid for prison payphones. The bill passed the Assembly Public Safety Committee but was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee due to the \$26 million reduction to the General Fund in a tight budget year.

This year, FCL and the California Catholic Conference lobbied the Legislative Women's Caucus and a Senate Budget Subcommittee 4 to phase out the telephone concession over four years and secured language to ensure that the savings to the phone vendor must be passed on to consumers in the form of reduced rates.

Our thanks to Senator Mike Machado, Chair of Budget Subcommittee 4, and to our valued partners at the California Catholic Conference!

February 2008 Ballot

Californians enjoying a reprieve from negative campaign ads this fall will endure three elections in 2008, thanks to the state's decision to move its presidential primary to February in order to gain the state more clout in national elections.

So far, three ballot initiatives have qualified for February ballot. Two are ballot-box-budgeting measures: one which stipulates that funds earmarked for the Transportation Investment Fund for uses unrelated to transportation and another to guarantee community colleges a minimum level of state spending and limit future fee increases. A proposal to modify term limits (see lead article) narrowly qualified for the ballot after several counties revised their estimated signature counts upward. Several initiatives supported by labor and those gaming tribes opposed to the new state compacts passed by the Legislature this year could also qualify for the ballot.

Recently, Governor Schwarzenegger has said he is considering putting health care reform on the ballot. Whether that would be for his health care proposal or for a hybrid of his proposal and **AB 8** (see "Health Care Debate Heats Up, *FCL Newsletter*, May-June 2007) remains to be seen. If the latter, the Legislature could place a referendum on the ballot up to 31 days prior to the election. Stay tuned. ☺

– Jim Lindburg <JimL@fclca.org>

**!!!SAVE
THE
DATE!!!**



**Be sure to reserve November 3rd
for the Whittier Dinner!**

**For more information,
contact Dale Richter
(916) 443-3734.**

Whatever Happened To...

This is a summary of some of the significant bills that FCL is following in the current legislative session. Bill status is shown as of September 10, 2007. The full list of bills, text and history of each bill may be found by consulting the FCL website or by contacting the author's staff. To express your views on legislation, please write to the governor, your state senator, and your assembly member, with a copy to the bill's author at "State Capitol, Sacramento, CA 95814." You may find out who your legislators are by consulting the State Government pages of your local telephone directory.

Capital Punishment

AB 780 (Jim Silva, R., Huntington Beach) as introduced, expands death-eligible special circumstances when the victim is a person who exercises powers of arrest. As amended, no longer of concern to FCL.

SB 511 (Elaine Alquist, D., Santa Clara) requires electronic recording of police interrogations for suspects accused of a homicide or a violent felony. FCL SUPPORTS. Governor's Desk.

SB 609 (Gloria Romero, D., Los Angeles) requires that testimony by an in-custody informant used to convict a person, find a special circumstance, or aggravating fact must be corroborated. FCL SUPPORTS. Governor's Desk.

SB 756 (Mark Ridley Thomas, D., Los Angeles) requires law enforcement to adopt procedures to minimize mistaken eyewitness identifications. FCL SUPPORTS. Governor's Desk.

Children and Youth

AB 1300 (Curren Price, D., Inglewood) adds the provision of comprehensive education to the purpose of incarceration for young people under the jurisdiction of the Department of Juvenile Justice and requires the department to design services that promote family ties. FCL SUPPORTS. Governor's Desk.

AB 1655 (Sally Lieber, D., Mountain View) requires the Department of Juvenile Justice to stop intake of young people convicted of crimes by April 1, 2008 and requires a plan to close all facilities and return wards to county of jurisdiction. FCL SUPPORTS. Assembly Appropriations Committee.

SB 344 (Darrell Steinberg, D., Sacramento) requires school districts to track students at high risk of dropping out and allows the use of supplemental instruction funds for intervention programs. FCL SUPPORTS. Assembly Appropriations Committee.

SB 999 (Leland Yee, D., San Francisco) eliminates life-without-parole for persons under age 18 convicted of first degree murder with a special circumstance and replaces it with a 25-year-to-life sentence. FCL SUPPORTS. Senate Inactive File.

Criminal Justice/Imprisonment

AB 79 (Cathleen Galgiani, D., Tracy) provides that persons convicted of murder who are denied parole become ineligible for a new parole hearing for 10 years. FCL OPPOSES. Assembly Public Safety Committee.

AB 116 (Greg Aghazarian, R., Stockton) requires a caregiver adult who ingests methamphetamine in the immediate presence of a child to serve a prison sentence of 16 months, 2 years, or 3 years. FCL OPPOSES. Assembly Public Safety Committee.

AB 148 (Richard Alarcon, D., Los Angeles) allows a lessor of real property to deny housing or to evict a person convicted of a sex offense. FCL OPPOSES. Assembly Public Safety Committee.

AB 160 (Sally Lieber, D., Mountain View) and **SB 110** (Gloria Romero, D., Los Angeles) establishes the California Sentencing Commission to review and devise sentencing guidelines. FCL SUPPORTS. Senate Floor and Assembly Floor, respectively.

AB 370 (Jim Silva, R., Huntington Beach) allows local governments to prohibit persons convicted of sex offenses from dwelling in single-family residences with other persons convicted of sex offenses and allows sober-living facilities to be classified as single-family dwellings for this purpose. FCL OPPOSES. Assembly Appropriations Committee.

AB 639 (Loni Hancock, D., Berkeley) requires the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to take steps to ensure that a

person paroled from San Quentin prison has a valid California identification card upon release. FCL SUPPORTS. Assembly Floor, Concurrence.

AB 755 (Sally Lieber, D., Mountain View) makes corporal punishment eligible for felony prosecution and a prison sentence. FCL OPPOSES. Assembly Public Safety Committee.

AB 824 (Lori Saldaña, D., San Diego) prohibits prisoners convicted of sex offenses from participating in fire fighting camps. FCL OPPOSES. Assembly Appropriations Committee.

AB 1416 (Sharon Runner, R., Lancaster) would allow driving while intoxicated with a child in the car a felony, punishable in state prison for 2, 4, or 6 years. FCL OPPOSES. Assembly Public Safety Committee.

AB 1539 (Paul Krekorian, D., Burbank) streamlines procedures for compassionate release of terminally ill prisoners with six months or less to live. FCL SUPPORTS. Governor's Desk.

SB 40 (Gloria Romero, D., Los Angeles) gives judges sole discretion to sentence defendants to the lower, middle or upper term. FCL OPPOSES. Chaptered.

SB 304 (Gloria Romero, D., Los Angeles) requires the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to permit media representatives to interview prisoners and prohibits retaliation against prisoners who communicate with the media. FCL SUPPORTS. Vetted.

SB 591 (Dave Cogdill, R., Fresno) makes possession of methamphetamine a felony punishable by a prison term. FCL OPPOSES. Senate Public Safety Committee.

SB 851 (Darrell Steinberg, D., Sacramento) authorizes the creation of mental health courts and requires them to develop procedures for assessing a defendant's mental

health to determine amenability for participation in treatment. FCL SUPPORTS. Assembly Floor.

Equality/Nondiscrimination

AB 21 (Dave Jones, D., Sacramento) creates a state Earned Income Tax Credit for low-income Californians. FCL SUPPORTS. Assembly Appropriations Committee.

AB 22 (Sally Lieber, D., Mountain View) repeals the exclusion of any children born into a family more than 10 months after the family begins receiving CalWORKs benefits when calculating the family's grant amount. FCL SUPPORTS. Assembly Appropriations Committee.

AB 43 (Mark Leno, D., San Francisco) provides that marriage is a personal relationship arising out of a civil contract between two persons and makes conforming changes to state law. FCL SUPPORTS. Governor's Desk.

AB 167 (Karen Bass, D., Los Angeles) prohibits eligibility for CalWORKs aide from being conditioned on the limitation of individual or family assets. FCL SUPPORTS. Senate Appropriations Committee.

AB 176 (Dave Jones, D., Sacramento) increases the amount of child support received without being declared as income for determining eligibility for CalWORKs assistance. FCL SUPPORTS. Senate Appropriations Committee.

AB 508 (Sandre Swanson, D., Oakland) eliminates the food stamp eligibility exclusion for persons convicted of a drug felony. FCL SUPPORTS. Governor's Desk.

AB 537 (Sandre Swanson, D., Oakland) expands eligibility for Family Leave by allowing a parent to care for an adult child suffering from a serious illness, expanding the definition of "parent" to include a parent-in-law and allows employees to care for a seriously ill grandparent, sibling, grandchild or domestic partner. FCL SUPPORTS. Governor's Desk.

AB 1379 (Julia Brownley, D., Santa Monica) requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to identify alternative criteria for high school seniors unable to pass exit examinations to demonstrate com-

petence and receive a diploma. FCL SUPPORTS. Senate Floor.

Governance

AB 466 (Loni Hancock, D., Berkeley) authorizes pupils volunteering in voting precincts to be included in independent study without reducing schools' average daily attendance. FCL SUPPORTS. Governor's Desk.

AB 583 (Loni Hancock, D., Berkeley) creates a voluntary system of publicly financed campaigns for elective office. FCL SUPPORTS. Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Health Care

AB 8 (Fabian Nuñez, D. Los Angeles) requires employers to offer health care coverage to employees and dependents or pay fees to enroll them into a state health insurance pool. FCL SUPPORTS if amended to address concerns with affordability. Senate Floor.

AB 110 (John Laird, D., Santa Cruz) authorizes public entities to use funds from the Department of Public Health for clean needle exchange programs. FCL SUPPORTS. Senate Floor.

AB 1334 (Sandre Swanson, D., Oakland) allows nonprofit and health care agencies to distribute condoms in state prisons. FCL SUPPORTS. Governor's Desk.

AB 1554 (Dave Jones, D., Sacramento) regulates increases in health insurance premiums, co-payments and deductibles. FCL SUPPORTS. Senate Health Committee.

SB 32 (Darrell Steinberg, D., Sacramento) expands eligibility for children in the Healthy Families Program to families with income up to 300 percent of the Federal Poverty Level. FCL SUPPORTS. Assembly Floor.

SB 840 (Sheila Kuehl, D., Santa Monica) creates the California Universal Healthcare System to provide affordable and comprehensive health care benefits to all California residents. FCL SUPPORTS. Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Housing

AB 239 (Mark DeSaulnier, D., Martinez) authorizes Contra Costa and San Mateo counties to charge \$25 document recording fees and use the proceeds for low-income

housing. FCL SUPPORTS. Senate Local Government Committee.

AB 414 (Dave Jones, D., Sacramento) limits "double-zoning" in designating sites for affordable housing to encourage more high-density and mixed-use zoning. FCL SUPPORTS. Senate Floor.

AB 607 (Julia Brownley, D., Santa Monica) requires locking mailboxes for residential hotel tenants. FCL SUPPORTS. Governor's Desk.

AB 641 (Alberto Torrico, D., Fremont) reduces up-front costs of affordable housing developments by requiring local governments to provide fee deferrals until the developer has received a certificate of occupancy. FCL SUPPORTS. Governor's Desk.

SB 464 (Sheila Kuehl, D., Santa Monica) limits the prohibition on public entities for adopting statutes, ordinances or regulations compelling owners of real property to continue to offer accommodations to those who have owned the property five years or longer. FCL SUPPORTS. Senate Inactive File.

Peace/Nonviolence

AB 1471 (Mike Feuer, D., West Hollywood) expands the definition of "unsafe handguns" to include semi-automatic pistols not equipped with microstamping technology. FCL SUPPORTS. Assembly Floor, Concurrence.

AB 1661 (Paul Cook, R., Yucaipa) allows males under the age of 26 to register with the Selective Service System on their application for a California Driver's License or Identification Card and requires the Department of Motor Vehicles to provide a notice on the application form of the consequences for failure to register. FCL OPPOSES. Assembly Appropriations Committee.

SB 468 (Alex Padilla, D., Los Angeles) creates the Shaken Baby Syndrome Education Pilot Program modeled after programs in New York that have reduced deaths by half. FCL SUPPORTS. Assembly Appropriations Committee.

SB 924 (Don Perata, D., Oakland) places an advisory on the ballot asking voters if President Bush should end the U.S. occupation of Iraq and immediately begin the orderly withdrawal of military forces. FCL SUPPORTS. Governor's Desk. ☺

**FRIENDS COMMITTEE ON
LEGISLATION OF CALIFORNIA**
717 K Street, Suite 500B
Sacramento, CA 95814-3408
Website: <http://www.fclca.org>

Periodicals
Postage
PAID
at
Sacramento, CA
95813

Brian Vura-Weis, Statewide Clerk, FCL Board of Directors

FCL STATEWIDE OFFICE (916) 443-3734

Jim Lindburg, Legislative Advocate
Dale Richter, Office Administrator
Ashley Hart, Newsletter Editor

Printed on recycled paper

FCL 2007 Bay Area Dinner

with

Gerald Uelmen, Executive Director of the California Commission on the Fair Administration of Justice, and

Sasha Abramsky, writer for *The Nation* and author of "American Furies: Crime, Punishment, and Vengeance in the Age of Mass Incarceration"

and honoring

Jeanne Woodford, Chief Adult Probation Officer for San Francisco and former Director of the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation

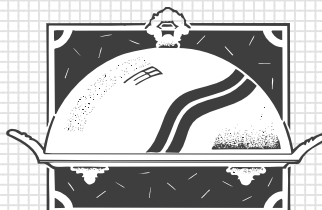
Saturday, October 6, 2007

5:45 P.M. Reception

6:15 P.M. Dinner and Program

Hillside Club

2286 Cedar Street
Berkeley, CA 94709



For more information, contact Dale Richter, FCL,

(916) 443-3734.

The Friends Committee on Legislation of California (FCL) includes Friends and like-minded persons, a majority of whom are appointed by Monthly Meetings of the Religious Society of Friends in California.



Expressions of views in this newsletter are guided by Statements of Policy prepared and approved by the FCL Committees. Seeking to follow the leadings of the Spirit, the FCL speaks for itself and for like-minded Friends. No organization can speak officially for the Religious Society of Friends.



While we strive above all for correctness and probity, we are quick to recognize that to err is human. We therefore solicit and welcome comments and corrections from our readers.