

FCL NEWSLETTER



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FRIENDS COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION

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Schwarzenegger Vetoes Bills to Reduce Wrongful Convictions

For the second time in two years, Governor Schwarzenegger has vetoed legislation aimed at reducing wrongful convictions. The three bills, **SB 756**, **SB 511** and **SB 609** were sponsored by the California Commission on the Fair Administration of Justice (CCFAJ). The Commission, which is doing extensive research into the causes of wrongful convictions, was created by the State Senate in 2004 with the passage of **SR 44** by long-time friend of FCL John Burton. (D., San Francisco). CCFAJ contains members of the law enforcement community and has consulted experts, reviewed scientific research and conducted public hearings. Chaired by former California Attorney General and Los Angeles County District Attorney John Van de Kamp, its reports have been virtually unanimous.

When a violent crime occurs in the community, the police are under enormous pressure to make an arrest, and wrongful convictions are a significant problem. Nationwide, there have been 208 DNA exonerations according to The Innocence Project, a non-profit legal clinic dedicated to freeing the wrongfully convicted. Though DNA evidence is precise, conclusive and usually irrefutable, it is not a panacea. Aside from problems with mishandling, DNA is present in only about five percent of cases. The larger import of conclusive DNA evidence (assuming it is properly handled) is that *it provides us with a new window into the criminal justice system*. The large number of DNA exonerations strongly suggests that *wrongful convictions occur more often than was previously believed* and that their causes are structural rather than random. Therefore, these causes can be identified and remedied provided that the Legislature and the governor have the political will.

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Gerald Uelmen of the California Commission on the Fair Administration of Justice tells FCL supporters about the Commission's work at the FCL Bay Area Dinner in Berkeley. Photo by Gail Patrice-Brown

According to the Innocence Project, false eyewitness identifications were a factor in 77 percent of the wrongful convictions. Research indicates that when witnesses view po-

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"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."

Schwarzenegger Vetoes Bills (Continued from page 1)

tential suspects in a police lineup simultaneously, they tend to identify the person who *most closely resembles* the person they saw commit the crime, even when that person could not have been physically present at the scene of the crime. Sequential lineups, where a witness views one suspect (or photograph) at a time, can reduce mistaken identifications because positive identifications would be more certain. Moreover, lineup administrators may inadvertently cue witnesses as to which subject they should identify. That the person conducting the test can influence the test outcome is widely accepted in science. Double-blind testing, where both the witness and the administrator do not know who the suspect is, eliminates the possibility of verbal or nonverbal cues to witnesses, and is standard procedure in conducting scientific experiments.

Last year, the Legislature passed **SB 1544**, by Carole Migden, (D., San Francisco), to require the Department of Justice (DOJ) and the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST), in consultation with local law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, defense attorneys and other legal experts, to develop guidelines to ensure the reliability of eyewitness identifications. Local law enforcement agencies would be required to adopt the guidelines by December 31, 2007. The measure was carefully drafted to avoid micromanaging law enforcement.

Gov. Schwarzenegger's veto message indicated that it was "unthinkable that we would allow the DOJ and POST such unprecedented authority over a fundamental step in our criminal justice system. *I cannot support a measure that circumvents the legislative process* [emphasis ours] and denies the public and their elected representatives the chance to approve or deny *a statewide policy* [emphasis ours] that could have a life-altering impact on an individual participating in our justice system."

This year, the Legislature passed **SB 756**, by Mark Ridley-Thomas (D., Los Angeles). SB 756 includes the caveat that new guidelines pertaining to eyewitness identifications would be subject to legislative approval and signed by the governor.

Though SB 756 was carefully drafted to address the governor's previous objections to SB 1544, Gov. Schwarzenegger again wielded his veto authority. In his veto message, the governor stated incorrectly that SB 756 would require local law enforcement agencies to adopt "questionable recommendations from the California Commission on the Fair Administration of Justice." "Law enforcement agencies," the governor added, "must have the authority to develop investigative policies and procedures that they can mold to their own unique local conditions and logistical cir-

cumstances rather than be restricted to methods created that may make sense from *a broad statewide perspective* [emphasis ours]." In fact, SB 756 only requires DOJ or POST to consider CCFAJ's recommendations, not that they be adopted. Furthermore, any new guidelines would be contingent on the passage of legislation subject to the governor's approval.

When the governor vetoed SB 1544 last year, he bemoaned the lack of legislative accountability. In this year's veto of SB 756, Gov. Schwarzenegger places all authority in local law enforcement agencies and shuns legislative accountability. Presumably, requiring law enforcement to conform to guidelines developed by DOJ and POST, passed by the Legislature and approved by the governor, is too restrictive for law enforcement. By this logic, the same could be said of requiring suspects to be notified of their Miranda rights. Nine states have reformed procedures for eyewitness identification, including, this year, Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina, Vermont and West Virginia.

Another factor present in one-fourth of DNA exoneration is false confessions. While this may seem surprising, research considered by CCFAJ indicates that the threat of a harsher sentence for failure to confess, ignorance of the law, diminished capacity, mental impairment, coercion, fear of violence or a combination of these factors increase the likelihood of a false confession. Juveniles are also vulnerable. The best way to reduce false confessions is to electronically record police interrogations. In fact, 500 police departments around the country already record interrogations. Law enforcement agencies that record interrogations unanimously approve of it, and the International Association of Chiefs of Police indicates that there are fewer lawsuits claiming police misconduct.

Last year, CCFAJ sponsored **SB 171**, authored by Elaine Alquist (D., San Jose) to require the electronic recording of interrogation of persons suspected of homicide or a violent felony. The bill contained good faith exemptions for equipment malfunctions and unavailability during the time of detention. In last year's veto message, Gov. Schwarzenegger said he supported the concept of the bill but was concerned that the language in SB 171 could allow the guilty to go free due to technicalities in its drafting. Specifically, the governor objected to the bill's definition of "custodial interrogation" as being different than the definition used by the U.S. Supreme Court for requiring suspects to be notified of their rights. Gov. Schwarzenegger encouraged the Legislature to submit another bill to address his concerns, implying that he would sign the bill.

This year the Legislature passed **SB 511**, also by Senator

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Bay Area Dinner - October 6



FCL supporter Jack Olive peruses the literature table.



FCL Board Members Lillian Henegar and Carin Pacifico.



Emcee Carin Pacifico presents Jeanne Woodford a commemorative for her efforts to expand AVP in California prisons.

All photos by Gail Patrice-Brown

(Continued on next page)

Elaine Alquist, which included tighter language to address the governor's concerns. The new bill explicitly defines "custodial interrogation" as "express questioning or its functional equivalent . . . conducted . . . from the time that the suspect is, or should be, informed of his or her rights to counsel, and to remain silent, until the questioning ends." The new bill also includes a tighter definition of a fixed place of detention and includes good faith exceptions due to equipment malfunctions and other factors.

Despite these accommodations, Gov. Schwarzenegger vetoed SB 511. His veto message is oblivious to his previous veto of SB 171, which included substantive objections that he asked the Legislature to address in order to obtain his approval. This time, the governor cavalierly dismissed the carefully reworked bill as too restrictive without explaining why.

CCFAJ also sponsored **SB 609**, authored by Gloria Romero, (D., Los Angeles) to require that testimony by in-custody informants be corroborated before it can be used to convict a defendant or find an aggravating circumstance which can lead to a death sentence or life without the possibility of parole. Requiring corroboration has deep roots in legal tradition dating back to Mosaic and biblical law. Most prosecutors will not use uncorroborated testimony because it is susceptible to challenges from competent defense attorneys. Thus, it is hard to fathom the hostile reaction to SB 609 from district attorneys, as the bill would only serve to bring those who use uncorroborated testimony into compliance with best practices employed by most prosecutors. The governor vetoed the legislation and remarked that it was unnecessary.

In Canada and the United Kingdom, when a wrongful conviction is discovered, there is an official inquiry into what

went wrong. In the U.S., wrongful convictions are casually dismissed as an unfortunate consequence of a fallible human nature. Egos get in the way of justice and denial is rampant. We comfort ourselves with assurances that no legal system could ever be perfect and that the American legal system is the best in the world, but even the best system can always be improved. Of course, those who have been wrongfully convicted and their loved ones tell a different story.

When combined with the "tough on crime" mentality of the 1980's and 1990's it is easy to see how law enforcement agencies and prosecutors can become complacent unless they are challenged. Even more disturbing is the ability of an entrenched law enforcement lobby to ward off even the most incremental challenges to its autonomy. The reforms proposed by the California Commission on the Fair Administration of Justice are not radical or wholesale revisions. Rather, they build upon our best legal traditions, which include rationality, objectivity and reasonable limitations on the police powers of the state. The proposed reforms amount to best practices which challenge law enforcement agencies to become even more professional.

In his first months in office, Gov. Schwarzenegger called for evidence-based corrections. The governor's vetoes demonstrate that when the going gets tough – and criminal justice policy is a tough arena – political considerations trump evidence-based practices. The governor maintains that public safety is number one priority. Notwithstanding our penal system's failure to correct, has he forgotten that for every innocent person convicted of a crime, the real perpetrator remains at large? ☹

– Jim Lindburg <JimL@fclca.org>

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.

Bay Area Dinner Highlights (Continued)



AVP Graduate Luis Sanchez, Jeanne Woodford and Kathryn Youngmeister of AVP.

Speakers Sasha Abramsky and Gerald Uelmen with Honoree Jeanne Woodford.



Jim Lindburg addresses the crowd at Berkeley's Hillside Club.



FCL supporters Sally Williams and Ruth Fraser.

FCL Community Corner

Conferences

On September 6, Jim and Dale attended a Stanford University forum on disparities in sentencing and penalties for crack and powder cocaine usage. Both the federal and state penalties for crack cocaine are five times greater than for powdered cocaine. This disparity is politically controversial and affects African-Americans almost exclusively. At the federal level, the sentencing disparity is being addressed by a U. S. Sentencing Commission which will make a report to Congress later this year. Efforts to reduce the sentencing disparities in California have failed in the Assembly.

On October 10 & 11, Jim and Dale attended the semi-annual conference of the Association of Criminal Justice Researchers of California in Long Beach. The event brings together practitioners and researchers to discuss and share the latest in both academic research and correctional practices. The conference included panel discussions and presentations on a variety of subjects including probation, parole, hate crimes, gender violence, gang violence, reentry services, correctional policies and substance abuse treatment programs.

Bay Area Dinner

On October 6, FCL held its annual dinner at the Hillside Club in Berkeley. The dinner was well attended and featured a great program, which included Gerald Uelman, Executive

Director of the California Commission on the Fair Administration of Justice, and Sasha Abramsky, writer for the *The Nation* and author of *American Furies: Crime, Punishment, and Vengeance in the Age of Mass Incarceration*. Jeanne Woodford, former Director of Corrections, was honored for her efforts to expand the Alternatives to Violence Program in California prisons. A question and answer panel allowed participants to ask questions on a range of criminal justice issues. Thanks to all of the sponsors and to Betsy Morris and the dinner planning committee for their hard work.

Meeting Events

Late in September, Palo Alto Friends Meeting hosted the annual Harvest Festival to raise Funds for FCL. The event was well attended again this year. Thanks to all who turned out and to the supporters behind the scenes who helped organize and worked hard to make this year's event a successful one.

Brian Vura-Weis, FCL Statewide Clerk, represented FCL at the 100th anniversary of the Orange Grove Friends Meeting in Pasadena. Congratulations to Orange Grove Friends Meeting!

Meeting Contributions

Thanks to the following meetings for recent contribu-

tions to FCL: Monterey Peninsula, Santa Monica, Inland Valley, Chico and Pacific Yearly Meeting.

Fundraising

The annual Fall Fund Appeal is under way along with the Holiday Card drive to fund newsletter subscriptions for prisoners. The Fall Fund appeal is one of our biggest fund raising efforts of the year and helps FCL fund its lobbying and educational activities.

FCL supporters who donate funds for prisoner subscriptions to the *FCL Newsletter* receive holiday cards made from artwork donated to FCL from prisoners. Last year we received enough donations to fund 225 prisoner subscriptions. FCL also donates 256 copies of each issue to prison libraries. A recent letter from a prison librarian stated that our newsletter is his most requested publication and thanked FCL for the free copies. If you would like to donate for a prisoner subscription, please refer to the FCL website or contact Dale at the FCL office.

2008 Quaker History Calendars on Sale Now!

Support FCL with educational gifts for all your friends and family! For the sixth year in a row, the Berkeley Religious Society of Friends Library Committee has created a lively Quaker History Calendar for 2008. Twelve new and unfamiliar stories of Quaker history, events, and personalities await. They can be ordered at \$30 for 10 calendars, and make great gifts. Quakers and non-Quakers will enjoy the stories and learning about Quaker history. Individual calendars can be purchased at Berkeley Religious Society of Friends, or from the FCL office in Sacramento. FCL receives 100% of your contribution. (You can always make it a little larger, if you wish.) **To place an order**, contact BerkMM@earthlink.net. Special thanks to Sue Friday and Ernest Bicknell for excellent research and distribution.

Upcoming

Coming to the FCL Statewide Meeting in Sacramento December 1? Why not come early and demonstrate for death penalty abolition? FCL and the Sacramento Chapter of Death Penalty Focus are organizing the last leg of the **Statewide Walk to Stop Executions**.

The final trek takes place on **November 30**, beginning at **10:45 AM** at River Walk Park (next to the Pyramid building) at the corner of G and 3rd Streets in West Sacramento. The two mile walk ends at noon in front of the Attorney General's Office at 1300 I St.

Speakers include Aba Gale, whose daughter was murdered, Greg Wilhoit, who was released from Oklahoma's death row after being found innocent, and Bill Babbit, whose brother, Manny Babbit, was executed by the State of California in 1999.

When it concludes, the Walk will have spread the message of death penalty abolition across 800 miles and 15 California counties.

For more information, contact the FCL office. ♡

—Dale Richter <Dale@fclca.org>

Statement of Ownership

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Paid In-County Subscriptions	68	71
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Other Classes Mailed Through the USPS	180	180
Total Paid and/or Requested Circulation	1126	1201
Free Distribution by Mail Outside County	0	0
Free Distribution by Mail Inside County	0	0
Free Distribution by Mail through Other Classes of Mail	273	300
Free Distribution Outside the Mail	173	174
Total Free Distribution	446	474
Total Distribution	1572	1675
Copies Not Distributed (In Office)	136	75
Total	1708	1750
Percent Paid and/or Requested Circulation	72%	72%

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 November 14, 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. Vetoed.

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. Vetoed.

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

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. Chaptered.

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. Vetoed.

AB 755 (Sally Lieber, D., Mountain View) makes corporal punishment eligible for felony prosecution and a prison sentence. FCL OPPOSES. Assembly Appropriations 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 to be prosecuted as 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. Chaptered.

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. Vetoed.

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. Vetoed.

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. Vetoed.

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. Chaptered.

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

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. Vetoed.

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 competence and receive a diploma. FCL SUPPORTS. Vetoed.

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. Vetoed.

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. Vetoed.

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. Chaptered.

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

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 Inactive File.

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 SUP-

PORTS. Vetoed.

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

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. Chaptered.

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 658 (Karen Bass, D., Los Angeles) awards grants to community-based organizations for the development and implementation of evidence-based approaches to violence to homicide and violence prevention. Vetoed.

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. Chaptered.

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. Vetoed. ☛


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FCL 2007 ANNUAL MEETINGS

Friday Evening, November 30, 2007
FCL Board of Directors Meeting
Dinner: 6-7PM; Meeting: 7PM

Sacramento Friends Meeting House
890 57th St., Sacramento, Ca. 95819

Saturday, December 1, 2007, 10AM to 3PM

**FCL 2007 Statewide General
Committee Meeting**

Hosted by the Sacramento Friends Meeting
890 57th St., Sacramento, Ca. 95819

For more information, contact the FCL office at
916.443.3734 or by email: fcladmin@fclca.org

If you need hospitality arranged or assistance with hotel
accommodations, please contact the FCL office.

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.