

FCL NEWSLETTER



VOL. 54, NO. 4

FRIENDS COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION

July/August 2005

The November Special Election

The November Special Election, the keystone of Governor Schwarzenegger's "Year of Reform," marks the fourth in time in just over two years that voters will trek to the polls to make key decisions concerning our state's future.

By November, an estimated \$200 million will have been spent by supporters and opponents of the various propositions. Pharmaceutical companies have amassed \$60 million to defeat a consumer-backed prescription drug initiative, while the governor is trying to raise \$50 million in support of three initiatives, all of which pit him against public employee unions.

The initiative process was designed as a tool for voters to bypass the Legislature when it becomes corrupted by powerful special interests. However, this election makes it abundantly clear that the initiative process is the preferred method of lawmaking by powerful special interests who wish to avoid the deliberations and compromise which are the heart of legislative process.

Lawmaking via the ballot often results in poorly drafted legislation or constitutional amendments that are virtually impossible to reverse. Rather than ironing out solutions via the legislative process that take in a broader range of interests, voters can only approve or reject initiatives. Voters must decide their positions without the benefit of the committee hearings and debate that characterize lawmaking in the Legislature.

Therefore, FCL urges voters to study each ballot proposition and FCL's recommendations carefully and to discuss them with family and friends. We welcome your comments and questions concerning our recommendations.

Proposition 73: *Waiting Period and Parental Notification Before Termination of Minor's Pregnancy.* Proposition 73 amends the California Constitution to require doctors to notify parents or legal guardians at least

FCL's Recommendations At-a-Glance



Proposition 73: No. *Waiting Period and Parental Notification before Termination of Minor's Pregnancy*

Proposition 74: No. *Public School Teachers. Waiting Period for Permanent Status. Dismissal.*

Proposition 75: No. *Public Employee Union Dues. Restrictions on Political Contributions. Employee Consent Requirement.*

Proposition 76: No. *School Funding. State Spending.*

Proposition 77: No. *Reapportionment.*

Proposition 78: No. *Prescription Drug Discounts.*

Proposition 79: Yes. *Prescription Drug Discounts. State-Mandated Rebates.*

Proposition 80: Yes. *Electric Service Providers. Regulation.*

48 hours before performing an abortion for a minor. While abortion is the least desirable form of birth control, we affirm the right of women to make this choice. Reproductive freedom is a serious women's health issue, and no woman, regardless of age, should be denied access to quality

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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."

The November Special Election (Continued from page 1)

health care. FCL believes that effective family planning begins with sex education that includes sexually responsible behavior and that access to contraception should be generally available.

Proposition 73 allows a judge to waive the notification requirements in the event that parental notification would result in danger to the minor. However, it is unreasonable

to expect emotionally distraught, pregnant teenagers to go before a judge to petition for a waiver. Minors who fear notifying their parents of their pregnancy will be more likely to seek an unsafe abortion which will put the lives of young women at risk. FCL OPPOSES.

Proposition 74: Public School Teachers. Waiting Period for Permanent Status. Backed by Governor Schwarzenegger, Proposition 74 would extend the probationary period for new teachers from two years to five years.

Current law allows school districts to terminate a teacher's employment during the probationary period without specifying a reason. The law also entitles teachers to a formal administrative hearing and an appeal process to ensure that they are not terminated arbitrarily. After completing their probationary period, teachers are required to undergo regular evaluations and can be let go for cause. Teachers are also required to renew their teaching credentials every five years by participating in professional development training.

Proposition 74 would eliminate some of the due process protections against arbitrary termination during the extended probationary period. Interestingly, the California School Boards Association contends that Proposition 74 would undermine a local school board's ability to terminate an incompetent teacher by allowing the definition of "unsatisfactory performance" to be negotiated thru the collective bargaining process.

According to a recent report by the Rand Corporation, California spends \$600 less per pupil than the national average and ranks 27th in the nation in per pupil spending. The Rand report notes that school spending lags even more in schools serving large minority populations and that California K-12 schools have a ratio of 21 students per teacher compared to the national average of 16 students per teacher.

Making it harder for teachers to teach is not reform. Real reform constitutes adequate funding for public edu-

cation and competitive salaries for new and established teachers. California's high cost of living makes it increasingly difficult to attract qualified teachers, and a longer probationary period is likely to further dissuade a career in teaching. Innovation would also be discouraged as new teachers are less likely to voice their opinions on how student performance could be improved until they are granted

"... the initiative process has become the preferred method of lawmaking by powerful special interests who wish to avoid the deliberation and compromise that are the heart of the legislative process."

permanent status. Proposition 74 would also make it easier to dismiss teachers who are controversial but nevertheless qualified to teach. FCL OPPOSES.

Proposition 75: Public Employee Union Dues. Required Employee Consent for Political Contributions. Championed as "paycheck protection" for public employees by anti-government crusader Lew Uhler, the real intent behind Propo-

sition 75 is to weaken Democrats in the state Legislature by making it harder for them to raise money from public employee unions.

Public employees already have the authority to choose whether their union contributions may be used for political purposes. Proposition 75 is not evenhanded. It places no similar constraints on the ability of corporations to make political contributions. FCL OPPOSES.

Proposition 76: School Funding. State Spending. In his 2005 State of the State Address, Governor Schwarzenegger said that "we must have a new approach that overrides the formulas, overrides the special interests and overrides the forces that have turned some of you from legislators into clerks." While a sizable portion of state spending is determined by voter-enacted spending formulas that reduce the Legislature's discretion, in Proposition 76 the governor proposes yet another such formula, this time, for cutting state spending.

Considered the lynchpin of the governor's "reform" measures, Proposition 76, also called "The Live Within Our Means Act" (and known in some circles as the "robot-cutter initiative"), establishes new limits on state spending that would apply to fees, voter-approved taxes and special funds, and the state's General Fund.

The governor would gain broad new powers to declare a fiscal emergency when state revenues fall 1.5 percent or more below levels forecast by the Department of Finance. If the Legislature does not enact legislation to resolve the

“fiscal emergency” within 45 days, the governor could reduce spending either across the board or to certain programs at his or her discretion.

State spending would be capped to the amount spent in the previous year, adjusted by the average annual growth in state revenues for the three previous years. The California Budget Project says that the rigid formula would allow for deficit spending during an economic downturn (if revenues grew in the prior three years) and prevents the state from restoring spending when the economy is recovering.

FCL supports progressive taxation. While California does have a progressive income tax, total taxation is regressive and the burden falls heavier on those of limited economic means. The Live Within Our Means Act redefines our economic wherewithal by rigid formulas that fail to consider additional revenues and reduces the Legislature’s limited flexibility in dealing with changing needs and fiscal shortfalls. FCL OPPOSES.

Proposition 77: Reapportionment. If passed, Proposition 77 turns the job of drawing California’s electoral districts over to retired judges beginning with a mid-decade redistricting in time for the 2006 elections.

In 2001, the Legislature created safe districts to protect incumbents. Safe districts are partly responsible for creating a polarized legislature that is arguably unaccountable to the state’s voters who tend to be more centrist. The notion that redistricting would create a substantially different legislature from a mid-decade shift is an exaggeration. Incumbents would still have all the advantages of incumbency. San Francisco will continue to elect Democrats and Rancho Cucamonga will still elect Republicans.

Retired judges are one step removed from the political process, but it makes more sense to create an independent commission made up of people from different walks of life to help redraw districts every ten years.

Real reform would also include public financing of elections in order to give challengers the opportunity to compete against incumbents and to reduce the influence of money in state politics. Eliminating our state’s unusual two-thirds super-majority requirement to pass a budget would do more to end political stalemates and would create more accountability to voters than Proposition 77. Though the current districting scheme, where elected officials choose their voters, needs to be fixed, Proposition 77 is not the answer. FCL OPPOSES.

Propositions 78 and 79: Prescription Drugs. Discounts. There are two competing initiatives on the November ballot concerning prescription drugs. Proposition 78 is being backed by the pharmaceutical industry which has garnered

For Further Reading

FCL encourages you to supplement the recommendations in this newsletter with information from the following sources:

California Budget Project

1107 9th Street, Suite 310, Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 444-0500 (phone), (916) 444-0172 (fax)
<http://www.cbp.org/>

Institute for Governmental Studies at UC Berkeley

University of California, Berkeley
Institute of Governmental Studies
109 Moses Hall #2370
Berkeley, CA 94720-2370
(510) 642-1428 (phone), (510) 642-5537 (fax)
<http://www.igs.berkeley.edu>

League of Women Voters

801 12th Street, Suite 220; Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 442-7215 (phone)
<http://ca.lwv.org>

Ballot Initiative Text and Analyses

http://www.ss.ca.gov/elections/vig_special05.htm

\$60 million dollars to defeat Proposition 79 and pass its own version of a drug discount program. Proposition 79 is sponsored by Consumers Union, Health Access California, the Congress of California Seniors and CALPIRG.

Currently, some California seniors and low-income residents are eligible for prescription drug benefits through Medi-Cal (California’s version of Medicaid) and the Healthy Families program which applies to children from low and moderate income families. Beginning in January of 2006, Medicare will begin to cover some prescription drugs. Still, many families are lacking prescription drug benefits.

The propositions have different eligibility requirements (see illustration on pg. 4) but the key difference is this: Proposition 79 has an enforcement mechanism, while Proposition 78 is a voluntary program that relies on the goodwill of the drug companies. Under Proposition 79, drug companies would be required to negotiate drug discounts with the state or forfeit their contracts to provide prescription drugs for Medi-Cal recipients. Proposition 79 would also make profiteering (defined as the charging of exorbitant prices) by drug companies a civil violation.

(Continued on next page)

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.

The November Special Election *(Continued from page 3)*

FCL believes that it is a fundamental right of individuals and communities to strive for optimal physical well-being and basic to that goal is full access to health services, including prescription drugs. FCL OPPOSES PROPOSITION 78 and SUPPORTS PROPOSITION 79.

Proposition 80: Electric Service Providers. Regulation. In 1998, the State Legislature and then-Governor Wilson initiated an experiment in energy deregulation. In 2000, that experiment went awry and led to rolling blackouts, 40 percent rate hikes for electricity and continued dependence on heavily-polluting power plants.

What began as an attempt to create “choice” for large energy consumers to buy and sell energy directly became an avenue for the manipulation of prices by profiteers like Enron and Duke Energy. California is at a critical junction. The governor and his business allies are calling for a return to deregulation.

Proposition 80 would forbid large energy users from opting out of regulation which leaves consumers and small businesses stuck with buying more power at higher rates. Utilities would be required to compete with independent energy producers at the wholesale level. Proposition 80 also accelerates the state’s 20 percent renewable energy requirement from the year 2017 to 2010 and preserves the ability for local municipalities to create public power entities.

Energy is much more than a consumer commodity. As a necessity that is used by all, regulating energy is a matter of economic justice. FCL SUPPORTS. ☘

– Jim Lindburg <JimL@fclca.org> with
special thanks to FCL interns
Jack Curtis Dubowsky and Ashley Hart.

Key Differences Between Propositions 78 and 79

	Proposition 78	Proposition 79
General eligibility requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> California residents in families with an income at or below 300 percent of the federal poverty level. (About \$29,000 annually for an individual and \$58,000 for a family of four.) No such provision. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> California residents in families with an income at or below 400 percent of the federal poverty level. (About \$38,000 annually for an individual and \$77,000 for a family of four.) Also persons in families with medical expenses at or above 5 percent of their family’s income.
Persons excluded from coverage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Persons with outpatient prescription drug coverage through Medi-Cal, Healthy Families, a third-party payer, or a health plan or drug discount program supported with state or federal funds (except Medicare beneficiaries). Certain persons with drug coverage, during the three-month period prior to the month the person applied for a drug discount card. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Persons with outpatient prescription drug coverage through Medi-Cal or Healthy Families (except Medicare beneficiaries). No such provision.
Application and renewal fee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$15 per year. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$10 per year.
Method of obtaining rebates from drug makers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Negotiated with drug makers. No such provision. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Negotiated with drug makers. Subject to federal approval, links new drug discount program to Medi-Cal for the purpose of obtaining rebates on drugs.
Assistance to business and labor organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No such provision. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishes drug discount program to assist certain business and labor entities.
Prescription Drug Advisory Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No such provision. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creates new nine-member panel to review the access to and pricing of drugs.
Lawsuits over drug profiteering law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No such provision. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Changes state law to make it a civil violation for a drug maker to engage in profiteering from the sale of drugs.

New and Better Things

We at FCL have said a fond farewell to our old home at 926 J and moved camp to a 100-plus year old Victorian with sloping floors. While the “good guys building” is no more (see “Legendary 926 J Building Sold,” *FCL Newsletter*, May-June), we take comfort in the fact that four of our closest neighbors from 926 J have also relocated to the fifth floor of our new building. (We call it the “good guys floor.”) Amidst a wilderness of boxes and particle board shelving units (some assembly required!), we are enjoying a temporarily over-active air-conditioning system and our new building’s proximity to coffee shops, smoothie bars, and the Mexican restaurant downstairs. And, of course, to the Capitol building.

Packing up the old office unearthed many treasures, including a suitable-for-framing thank you letter from former Governor Edmund G. “Pat” Brown to then-FCL Development Director Doug Thompson. Governor Brown thanked Doug for the good work that FCL does and for loaning him a copy of the book *88 Men and 2 Women*, a former San Quentin warden’s account of the 90 executions he witnessed.



Photos by Gail Patrice Brown



Thank you for your patience as we settle into our new location; it may take a little more time than usual to publish the newsletter and respond to your requests and concerns! And please stop by and say hello to us next time you are in the neighborhood. ♡

Friends Committee on Legislation
717 K Street, Ste. 500B
Sacramento, CA 95814

– Ashley Hart, *FCL Newsletter* editor
<fclintern@yahoo.com>



Whatever Happened To...

This is a summary of significant bills that FCL is following in the current legislative session. Bill status is shown as of September 17, 2005. 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.

Budget and Revenue

AB 6 (Wilma Chan, D., Oakland) restores the top income tax rates on the highest incomes. FCL SUPPORTS. Assembly Floor.

Capital Punishment

AB 331 (Russ Bogh, R., Beaumont) prohibits state-funded travel to countries that refuse to comply with extradition warrants because of our state's practice of capital punishment. FCL OPPOSES. Assembly Public Safety Committee.

SB 378 (Bill Morrow, R., Oceanside) would lessen the current competency standards for the appointment of counsel in death penalty appeals and habeas corpus proceedings. FCL OPPOSES. Senate Public Safety Committee.

Children and Youth

AB 760 (Pedro Nava, D., Santa Barbara) as amended, allows a custodial parent who has been arrested to make two additional phone calls at no expense to arrange care for dependent children. FCL SUPPORTS. Governor's Desk.

AB 862 (Karen Bass, D., Los Angeles) requires that every prisoner who is a parent of a minor child receives information on child support modification as developed by the Department of Child Support Services. FCL SUPPORTS. Governor's Desk.

SB 520 (Roy Ashburn, R., Bakersfield) lower the age that minors can be prosecuted as adults for certain offenses from 16 to 14. FCL OPPOSES. Senate Public Safety Committee.

SB 609 (Gloria Romero, D., Los Angeles) as amended, expresses the Legislature's intent to transfer Youth Authority parole supervision and services from the state to local governments. FCL SUPPORTS. Assembly Desk.

Criminal Justice/ Imprisonment

AB 35 (Todd Spitzer, R., Orange) would eliminate the tiered classification of sex offenders and adds the name and address of a sex offender's employer and the make, model and license plate number of the offender's vehicle to the Department of Justice website. FCL OPPOSES. Held in Assembly Public Safety Committee.

AB 50 (Mark Leno, D., San Francisco) amends California's "three strikes" law to prevent defendants with two prior convictions for serious or violent felonies from receiving a 25-year-to-life sentence unless the third conviction is for a serious or violent felony. FCL SUPPORTS. Assembly Public Safety Committee.

AB 96 (Rebecca Cohn, D., Saratoga) creates a five-year sentencing enhancement for high-risk sex offenders. FCL OPPOSES. Assembly Public Safety Committee.

AB 125 (Mervyn Dymally, D., Compton) eliminates the sentencing disparity for the possession of cocaine base and powdered cocaine for sale. FCL SUPPORTS. Assembly Inactive File.

AB 161 (Juan Vargas, D., San Diego) requires the Department of Corrections to employ at least one clergy member for every 500 inmates. FCL SUPPORTS. Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee.

AB 212 (Chuck DeVore, R., Irvine) would prohibit prisoners who have been convicted of violent felonies from receiving overnight family visits while incarcerated. FCL OPPOSES. Held in Assembly Public Safety Committee.

AB 231 (Sharon Runner, R., Lancaster) as amended, makes kidnapping with the intent to commit rape and lewd and lascivious acts punishable with a life sentence and increases criminal penalties for other sex offenses.

FCL OPPOSES. Assembly Public Safety Committee.

AB 308 (Jerome Horton, D., Inglewood) as amended, makes prisoners convicted of hate crimes ineligible for early release credits. FCL OPPOSES. Assembly Public Safety Committee.

AB 505 (Mark Leno, D., San Francisco) removes the "just cause" provision and requires that persons convicted of nonviolence offenses be released from parole after one year of good behavior. FCL SUPPORTS. Assembly Inactive File.

AB 561 (Cindy Montañez, D., San Fernando) requires the Department of Corrections to perform initial and subsequent annual educational assessments of each incarcerated person and grants the Superintendent of Correctional Education authority over the prison education budget. FCL SUPPORTS. Governor's Desk.

AB 627 (Tim Leslie, R., Tahoe City) authorizes members of the clergy or a spiritual advisor who has ministered to a prisoner while incarcerated to continue that relationship when the prisoner is paroled. FCL SUPPORTS. Governor's Desk.

AB 629 (Wilma Chan, D., Oakland) establishes a re-entry pilot program for parolees in Alameda County that would emphasize individual and structured case management and wraparound services. FCL SUPPORTS. Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee.

AB 677 (Nicole Parra, D., Hanford) expands California's "Three Strikes" law to include solicitation of murder. As amended, no longer of concern to FCL.

AB 698 (Ray Haynes, R., Murrieta) as amended, permits the news media to interview prisoners and prohibits retaliation against prisoners for participating in interviews. FCL SUPPORTS. Governor's Desk.

AB 1505 (Jay La Suer, R. La Mesa) requires the Department of Corrections to collect restitution from prisoners without an application from the Victim Compensation Program and makes restitution a condition of parole. As amended, no longer of concern to FCL.

SB 337 (Abel Maldonado, R., Santa Maria) as amended, requires state universities and community colleges to exclude students for one year who have been convicted of specified offenses and makes them ineligible for Cal Grants for two years. FCL OPPOSES. Held in Senate Education Committee.

SB 366 (Sheila Kuehl, D., Santa Monica) as amended, requires the Department of Corrections to post information concerning visiting hours and regulations on the internet and create children-friendly environments for visitations. FCL SUPPORTS. Held in Senate Appropriations Committee.

SB 972 (Charles Poochigian, R., Fresno) requires persons incarcerated in local correctional facilities to have up to 50 percent of their wages and trust fund deposits transferred to the California Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board. As amended, no longer of concern to FCL.

Equality, Non-discrimination

AB 48 (Sally Lieber, D., Mountain View) raises California's minimum wage from \$6.75 per hour to \$7.25 per hour effective July 1, 2006 and \$7.75 per hour effective July 1, 2007. FCL SUPPORTS. Governor's Desk.

AB 930 (Hector De La Torre, D., South Gate) restructures the Naturalization Services Program to ensure that eligible immigrants have access to naturalization services. FCL SUPPORTS. Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Health Care

AB 296 (Gloria Negrete McLeod, D., Chino) provides free, confidential testing and treatment to prisoners for the hepatitis C virus. FCL SUPPORTS. Governor's Desk.

AB 478 (Sally Lieber, D., Mountain View) provides that female prisoners who give birth in a community treatment program shall be given prenatal care, childbirth education, and infant care and prohibits the use of shackles during the birthing process. FCL SUPPORTS. Governor's Desk.

AB 772 (Wilma Chan, D., Oakland) and **SB 437** (Martha Escutia, D., Whittier) creates the California Healthy Kids Program for children in households with incomes up to 300 percent of the federal poverty level. FCL SUPPORTS. Governor's Desk and Senate Inactive File respectively.

AB 1677 (Paul Koretz, D., W. Hollywood) allows nonprofit and health care agency to distribute condoms to incarcerated persons. FCL SUPPORTS. Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee.

SB 556 (Carole Migden, D., San Francisco) requires that no more than 12 percent of Proposition 36 funds be spent on probation and allows the duration of treatment to be extended up to 24 months. FCL SUPPORTS. Senate Inactive File.

SB 803 (Denise Moreno Ducheny, D., San Diego) allows a judge to determine if a person convicted of a nonviolent drug offense is amenable to treatment and allows the use of incarceration when a person in treatment tests positive for drug use. FCL OPPOSES. Assembly Public Safety Committee.

SB 840 (Sheila Kuehl, D., Santa Monica) provides health care for all Californians with comprehensive benefits. FCL SUPPORTS. Assembly Rules Committee.

Housing

AB 438 (Nicole Parra, D., Hanford) would allow lessors of real property to deny a rental application and to evict persons convicted of sex offenses. FCL OPPOSES. Assembly Public Safety Committee.

AB 712 (Joe Canciamilla, D., Pittsburg) tightens the standard for triggering the requirement that a locality make certain findings before making density reductions. FCL SUPPORTS. Governor's Desk.

SB 51 (Sheila Kuehl, D., Santa Monica) deletes the sunset clause on the requirement for an owner of a residential dwelling to give a tenant at least 60 days notice prior to the termination of a rental agreement. FCL SUPPORTS. Assembly Floor.

SB 277 (Jim Battin, R., La Quinta), would permit owners of residential property to use information from the Attorney General's website to evict a person who has been convicted of a sexual offense and/or to deny a rental application. As amended, no longer of concern to FCL.

SB 575 (Tom Torlakson, D., Antioch) strengthens anti-NIMBY law by prohibiting the denial of a permit to build low and moderate-income housing unless a jurisdiction has met or exceeded its share of low and moderate-income housing. FCL SUPPORTS. Governor's Desk.

Peace, Nonviolence

AB 101 (Rebecca Cohn, D., Saratoga) allows all people excepting persons convicted of felonies, minors, and persons addicted to narcotics to purchase stun guns for self-defense. FCL OPPOSES. Assembly Appropriations Committee.

AB 352 (Paul Koretz, D., W. Hollywood) expands the definition of unsafe handguns to include semiautomatic pistols that are not designed and equipped with a micro-stamping that allows law enforcement to trace the use of a handgun. FCL SUPPORTS. Senate Inactive File.

AB 448 (Jay La Suer, R., La Mesa) repeals California's ban on assault weapons. FCL OPPOSES. Assembly Public Safety Committee.

AB 944 (Mark Ridley-Thomas, D., Los Angeles) requires gun dealers to post warnings to consumers that guns in the home are more likely to be used to injure or kill a family member than to protect against an attacker. FCL SUPPORTS. Senate Public Safety Committee.

AB 1179 (Leland Yee, D., San Francisco) prohibits the sale, rental, and distribution of violent video games to persons under age 17. FCL SUPPORTS. Governor's Desk.

AB 1218 (Mark Wyland, R., Del Mar) requires elementary and secondary students to recite the Pledge of Allegiance each day during the school year. FCL OPPOSES. Assembly Education Committee.

AB 1237 (Mark Leno, D., San Francisco) prohibits the public sale and possession of tasers and requires law enforcement agencies to track and report their use to the Department of Justice. FCL SUPPORTS. Assembly Inactive File.

SB 5 (Bill Morrow, R., Oceanside) requests the UC Regents and CSU Trustees to develop guidelines and to implement the Student Bill of Rights. FCL OPPOSES. Senate Education Committee. ☞



To Our Incarcerated Readers:

It's time to enter your artwork for **FCL's 21st Annual Holiday Art Competition!** If chosen, your artwork will be printed on the 2005 FCL Holiday Card.

Deadline for submission: October 31, 2005

Send to: FCL, 717 K St., Suite 500-B, Sacramento, CA 95814

Prize: \$100

Requirements:

1. Only original artwork will be accepted.
2. Submit only black and white drawings on white paper. We welcome your suggestions on color schemes (to be added later).
3. Entry must represent the holiday spirit of love, peace, harmony, diversity joy, goodwill, and happiness. We will not consider artwork that depicts a particular tradition or religious faith (like Santa Claus, Nativity scenes, or a Menorah).
4. **ONLY incarcerated individuals are eligible.** Entries must be mailed from a California State Prison.

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.

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