

## Health Care 2012

### THE FIGHT TO STOP HEALTH INSURANCE PRICE GOUGING

As California families continue to reel from the most severe economic downturn since the Great Depression, health insurance premium rates have soared by 153% since 2002, nearly five times the rate of inflation.

Businesses are finding it difficult to pay for these rate hikes, and pass the increased costs on to workers. Business owners and employees are forced to absorb these rising costs or search for less expensive – and less comprehensive – coverage options.

Meanwhile, only four insurance companies control 71% of the California market, and they set premiums behind closed doors and without accountability.

While businesses and families struggle to pay unaffordable premiums that have double digit increases every year and workers face high unemployment and stagnant wages, Blue Shield lavished its CEO with a \$4.6 million salary and then proposed premium rate hikes as high as 59% in 2011 (but revoked the proposal due to massive public outcry).

And last April, Anthem Blue Cross raised rates on 120,000 California cus-

tomers by 16%, despite a finding by state regulators that the increase was unreasonable.

### THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT: SOME POSITIVE REFORMS, BUT INSUFFICIENT

Unfortunately, the President's Affordable Care Act is unequipped to rein in these rising health care costs. The new law has made some significant improvements to the system, including banning the denial of care due to preexisting conditions, insuring 2.5 million young adults that can now stay on their parent's plan until they are 26, increasing funding for health clinics serving the poor, aid for medical students training to become primary care physicians, requiring insurers to spend at least 80% of total dollars on providing medical care and closing the 'donut hole' for Medicare recipients (saving them 50% on prescription drugs), among others.

However, each component of the President's original plan that would have more directly addressed the problem of rising health care costs were jettisoned during the debate due to horse trading with Big Pharma, the health



insurance industry, and Republican lawmakers. These include: failing to include the public option; continuing the anti-trust exemption for the health insurance industry; failing to allow the government to negotiate drug prices or import cheaper drugs from Canada; and failing to provide any real regulatory power to prevent exorbitant increases in health insurance premiums.

Thus the responsibility to control skyrocketing health insurance rates that threaten any real economic recovery, and the health and well being of the people of California, is dependent on state action.

### A BILL AND A BALLOT MEASURE

In light of these realities, the State legislature should immediately support reining in rising premiums costs – a step already taken by 36 states – by giving state regulators veto power over



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health insurance industry attempts to gouge consumers.

While the Affordable Care Act gives state Insurance Commissioners the power to declare that a rate increase is excessive - they can't do anything to stop it. To date, nationally, this "shaming" technique has only successfully convinced insurance companies to drop or reduce their initially proposed premium increases in 17 percent of 300 cases in 2011.

Assembly Bill 52 (Feuer) – now one state senate vote away from reaching the Governor's desk - would empower the State Insurance Commissioner to approve, modify or reject proposed premium rate hikes. The Department of Managed Health Care would get comparable authority over proposed HMO rate hikes.

The bill is modeled after Proposition 103, which voters approved in 1988 despite a \$70 million opposition campaign by the insurance industry. Proposition 103 gave the Insurance

Commissioner rate approval authority over other lines of insurance including homeowners' and automobile policies.

Proposition 103 provides a model of effective regulation which allows insurers to earn a fair rate of profit, while preventing excessive rate gouging. Since Prop 103 passed, auto insurance premiums have gone up just 3.8% in California, while they rose an average 42.9% nationally. California drivers saved \$62 billion, according to the Consumer Federation of America.

If AB 52 (Feuer) fails to clear those two final hurdles, a potential November initiative proposed by Consumer Watchdog would give the voters final say on this issue. The initiative (Insurance Rate Public Justification and Accountability Act), currently in the signature gathering stage to qualify for the ballot, would force health insurance companies to publicly justify their rates, and get permission from the Insurance Commissioner before rate increases take effect, in addition to limit-

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Health care is a right and a basic human need, not a privilege for those that can afford it.

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ing how much they can spend on CEO salaries and bonuses.

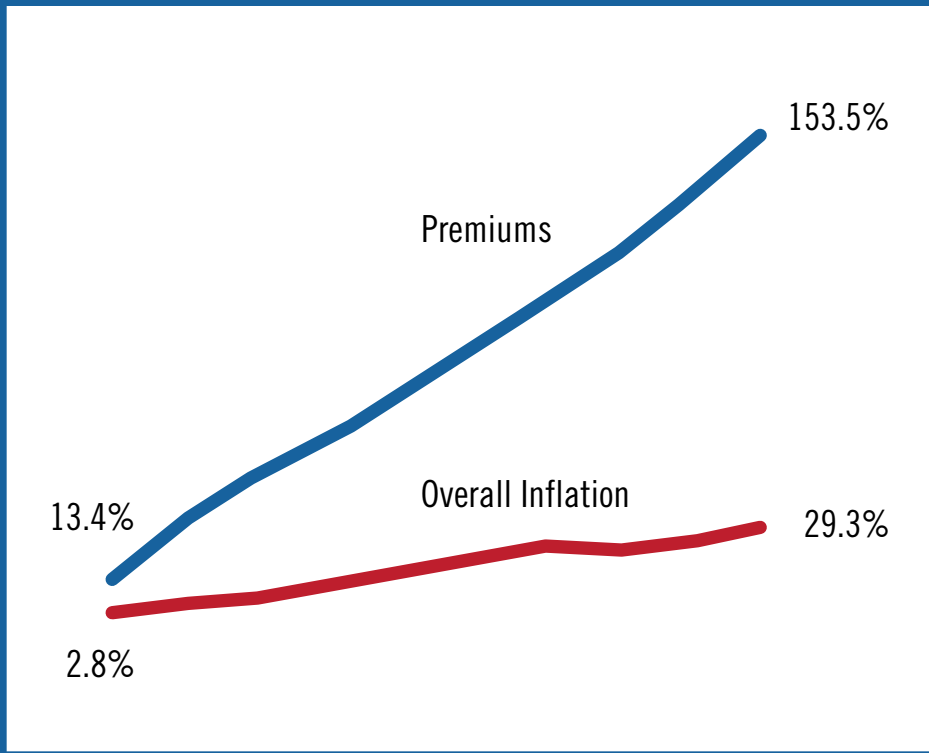
**BIG INSURANCE KILLS LANDMARK "MEDICARE FOR ALL" LEGISLATION**

Of course, if we ever get serious about addressing the state's health care crisis, from skyrocketing premiums to the over 7 million uninsured Californians (to the millions more underinsured and denied critical care), there is a simple, proven and effective solution: a "Medicare for All", single payer system.

Unfortunately, precisely such a bill - SB 810 (Leno) - was voted down in the State Senate in February by a vote of 15 to 19, with 6 abstentions (the exact number of votes needed to reach the 21 necessary to pass). If enacted, quality, comprehensive health coverage would have been provided to every Californian while dramatically reducing premiums for businesses and families. To no surprise, the six Democratic legislators that refused to join their colleagues in supporting this legislation, and instead joined the entire Republican caucus in opposition, received HUGE sums of money from the health insurance industry.

Until a majority of our elected representatives have the courage to embrace what every other major democracy in the world has – health care is a right and a basic human need, not a privilege for those that can afford it – our state will continue to waste billions of dollars a year while costing the lives of untold numbers of Californians all so the health insurance industry can continue to profit off denying care and overcharging consumers.

**Cumulative Premium Increases Compared to Inflation, Family Coverage, California, 2002-2011**





# Time to Take Toxics Out of Our Furniture

BY RICHARD HOLOBER, CONSUMER FEDERATION OF CALIFORNIA

Californians are exposed to dangerous levels of toxic chemicals in our homes, thanks to a 37 year old state furniture regulation. Initially adopted to reduce fires in our homes, the regulation is obsolete, but its legacy of toxic harm lives on.

Decades ago, an obscure state agency, the Bureau of Electronic Appliance Repair, Home Furnishings and Thermal Insulation, adopted the regulation, known as Technical Bulletin 117 (TB117). It required upholstered furniture sold in California to pass a test in which the cushion is cut open and its interior foam or filling withstands exposure to a flame from a gas burner or similar fire source for twelve seconds without igniting.

Manufacturers comply with TB 117 by saturating upholstered furniture with toxic brominated or chlorinated chemicals. Manufacturers and the retailers who sell the products prefer not to put toxic chemicals in their products. These chemicals are similar to TRIS, a fire retardant used in children's pajamas until it was banned in the US as a carcinogen in 1977.

Chemical cousins to TRIS saturate the cushions of our chairs, couches, and other upholstered furniture. The chemicals don't stay contained inside the furniture. They migrate into the dust in the air in our homes and from there into our bodies. Babies ingest the chemicals when they chew or suck on cushions or other items that contain fire retardants.

These fire retardants are associated with cancer, birth defects, thyroid disruption, hearing deficits, learning disorders, infertility and lowered IQs. Numerous studies have found these chlorinated and brominated chemicals in the breast milk of nursing mothers,

and in the blood streams of California infants. In both cases concentration levels are many times higher than in studies conducted in Europe and other countries that have banned their use.

Recently, a UC Davis study demonstrated the threat these chemicals pose to people – especially children – including autism spectrum disorders, learning disabilities, decreased fertility, and other serious health conditions.

There might be an argument for tolerating these health hazards if TB 117 was effective in preventing deaths from house fires. It isn't.

The good news is that rates of fire deaths have declined significantly over recent decades. Other states with no furniture flammability standard have seen a more rapid decline than we've experienced in California. This decline is due to a Congressional law requiring self-extinguishing cigarettes, which cut the risk of ignition from negligent smoking, as well as lower smoking rates and building regulations that require safer electrical wiring and use of smoke detectors and residential sprinklers.

Chemical manufacturers have spent a fortune fighting to hang on to the obsolete TB 117 regulation. Environmental Health News reported in November 2011 that manufacturers of fire retardant chemicals spent \$23 million in the preceding five years on lobbying and political contributions in California alone. That money defeated five

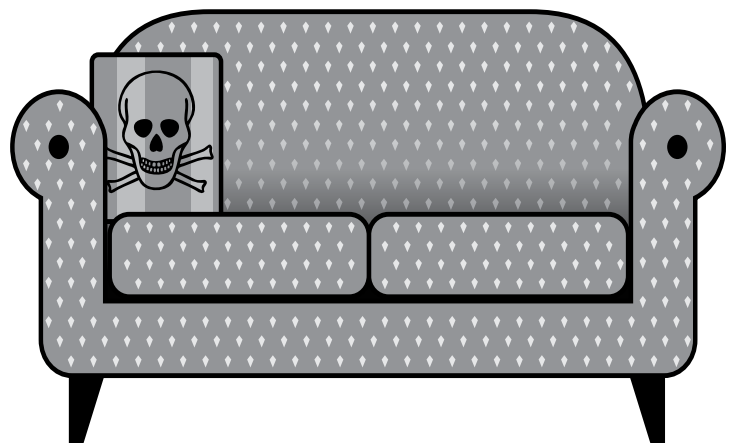
separate legislative attempts to modify a chemical industry cash cow, TB 117.

In one case, voters' mailboxes were flooded with industry-funded brochures featuring a firefighter carrying a baby from a burning home, alongside a dire warning to call your legislator and make sure he or she didn't make a tragic mistake by voting to change TB 117.

These brochures forgot to mention that the California Professional Firefighters wants to get rid of TB 117. First responders bare the brunt of occupational exposure to dioxin and furan, which are released when furniture loaded with fire retardants smolder in a house fire. Dioxin and furan are linked to firefighters' elevated rates of multiple myeloma, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, prostate and testicular cancer.

California can protect residents from fires by adopting a modern safety standard that would ensure that the furniture's fabric lining resists igniting when in contact with a smoldering object. The US Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) has drafted this standard. It more closely models the way fires actually spread. Furniture manufacturers can comply with this standard by using

## WHAT'S IN YOUR COUCH?



## ABOUT US

The Consumer Federation of California (CFC) is a non-profit advocacy organization. Since 1960, CFC has been a powerful voice for consumer rights, campaigning for state and federal laws that place consumer protection ahead of corporate profit. Each year, CFC testifies before the California legislature on dozens of bills that affect millions of our state's consumers and appears before state agencies in support of consumer regulations.

Contributions are not tax deductible.

## KEEP IN TOUCH

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## Toxic Furniture ▶ CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

fire resistant fabric covers, or by adding fire resistant barriers between the cover and the foam stuffing. The proposed CPSC standard has had years of vetting by fire safety experts.

California doesn't have to wait for federal action. A broad coalition of consumer groups, business people, firefighters, environmental organizations, scientists, labor unions, mothers and health professionals is calling on the state to adopt a modern furniture flammability standard that would protect us from fires without loading our homes with harmful chemicals.

California's regulatory agency has the authority – and the duty – to review the scores of peer reviewed academic studies linking fire retardant chemicals to cancer and other health effects, and examine the latest studies showing there is no fire safety to TB 117. It should ex-

amine the statistical data on the causation of home fires. It should field test the efficacy of the proposed alternative safety regulation, using the Bureau of Electronic Appliance Repair, Home Furnishings and Thermal Insulation's fire testing facility in Sacramento.

We are confident that if the state agency with the responsibility to keep

us safe in our homes did its job, an objective, evidence based review will lead to the replacement of TB 117 with a non-toxic alternative. The first step is to free it from the heavy hand of the chemical industry. It's time for California to act on this vital health concern – it's good for business and good for our health.

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# 2011 Consumer Scorecard for State Lawmakers: Assembly

Assembly Member	Party	Total Right Votes Cast	Total Wrong Votes Cast	AB 22 9/8 Floor	AB 52 6/2 Floor	AB 158 3/15 Judiciary	AB 183 9/9 Floor	AB 403 5/26 Floor	AB 591 6/1 Floor	AB 688 9/9 Floor	AB 753 4/28 Floor	AB 935 4/25 BP & CP	AB 1062 5/26 Floor	AB 1319 9/6 Floor	SB 24 8/15 Floor	SB 408 9/1 Floor	SB 558 6/21 Judiciary	SB 850 9/7 Floor	201 Score	Lifetime Score
Achadjian	REP.	3	10	W	W	--	W	R	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	--	R	23%	23%
Alejo	DEM.	12	0	R	R	--	R	R	R	R	R	--	R	R	R	R	--	R	100%	100%
Allen	DEM.	12	0	R	R	--	R	R	R	R	R	--	R	R	R	R	--	R	100%	100%
Ammiano	DEM.	12	0	R	R	--	R	R	R	R	R	--	R	R	R	R	--	R	100%	100%
Atkins	DEM.	14	0	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	--	R	R	R	R	R	R	100%	100%
Beall	DEM.	12	0	R	R	--	R	R	R	R	R	--	R	R	R	R	--	R	100%	97%
Berryhill, B.	REP.	2	10	W	W	--	W	R	W	W	W	--	W	W	W	W	--	R	17%	14%
Block	DEM.	12	0	R	R	--	R	R	R	R	R	--	R	R	R	R	--	R	100%	83%
Blumenfield	DEM.	11	0	R	R	--	R	R	R	R	R	--	R	R	--	R	--	R	100%	94%
Bonilla	DEM.	10	0	R	R	--	R	R	R	R	R	--	R	R	--	--	--	R	100%	100%
Bradford	DEM.	12	0	R	R	--	R	R	R	R	R	--	R	R	R	R	--	R	100%	96%
Brownley	DEM.	12	0	R	R	--	R	R	R	R	R	--	R	R	R	R	--	R	100%	98%
Buchanan	DEM.	9	3	R	W*	--	R	R	R	R	R	--	W*	R	R	W	--	R	75%	76%
Butler	DEM.	12	0	R	R	--	R	R	R	R	R	--	R	R	R	R	--	R	100%	100%
Calderon, C.	DEM.	10	3	R	R	--	R	R	R	R	W*	--	W*	R	R	R	--	W*	77%	74%
Campos	DEM.	12	0	R	R	--	R	R	R	R	R	--	R	R	R	R	--	R	100%	100%
Carter	DEM.	12	0	R	R	--	R	R	R	R	R	--	R	R	R	R	--	R	100%	92%
Cedillo	DEM.	10	0	R	R	--	R	--	R	R	R	--	--	R	R	R	--	R	100%	87%
Chesbro	DEM.	10	2	W*	R	--	R	R	R	R	R	--	R	R	R	W*	--	R	83%	92%
Conway	REP.	1	11	W	W	--	W	R	W	W	W	--	W	W	W	W	--	W	8%	9%
Cook	REP.	1	11	W	W	--	W	R	W	W	W	--	W	W	W*	W	--	W	8%	12%
Davis	DEM.	9	2	R	R	--	R	W*	R	R	R	--	W*	R	R	--	--	R	82%	80%
Dickinson	DEM.	14	0	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	--	R	R	R	R	R	R	100%	100%
Donnelly	REP.	1	11	W	W	--	W	R	W	W	W	--	W	W	W	W	--	W	8%	8%
Eng	DEM.	13	0	R	R	--	R	R	R	R	R	--	R	R	R	R	--	R	100%	98%
Feuer	DEM.	14	0	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	--	R	R	R	R	R	R	100%	100%
Fletcher	REP.	4	9	W	W	--	R	R	W	W	W	W	W	W	R	W	--	R	31%	23%
Fong	DEM.	12	0	R	R	--	R	R	R	R	R	--	R	R	R	R	--	R	100%	97%
Fuentes	DEM.	12	1	R	R	--	R	R	R	R	W*	--	R	R	R	R	--	R	92%	81%
Furutani	DEM.	11	1	R	R	--	R	R	R	R	R	--	R	R	R	R	--	W*	92%	85%
Gaines, B.	REP.	3	9	W	W	--	W	R	W	W	--	--	W	W	R	W	W	R	25%	25%
Galgiani	DEM.	7	5	R	W*	--	R	R	W*	R	W*	--	W	W*	R	R	--	R	58%	53%
Garrick	REP.	1	11	W	W	--	W	R	W*	W	W	--	W	W	W	W	--	W	8%	15%
Gatto	DEM.	11	1	W	R	--	R	R	R	R	R	--	R	R	R	R	--	R	92%	86%
Gordon	DEM.	12	0	R	R	--	R	R	R	R	R	--	R	R	R	R	--	R	100%	100%
Gorell	REP.	0	1	--	--	W	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	0%	0%
Grove	REP.	1	11	W	W	--	W	R	W*	W	W	--	W	W	W	W	--	W	8%	8%



**LEGEND**

R = Right, voted for consumers  
 W\* = Present, did not vote - same as voting against consumers  
 R\* = Present, did not vote, same as voting in favor of consumers  
 -- = Excused absence, not a member of committee, or not a member of the Assembly at the time the vote was cast

W = Wrong, voted against consumers  
 BP & CP = Assembly Business Professional and Consumer Protection Committee  
 E.Q. = Senate Environmental Quality Committee  
 N.R. & W. = Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee  
 B.P. & E. = Senate Business Professional and Economic Development Committee

# 2011 Consumer Scorecard for State Lawmakers: Senate

Senate Member	Party	Total Right Votes Cast	Total Wrong Votes Cast	AB 22 9/8 Floor	AB 52 7/6 Health	AB 183 9/8 Floor	AB 403 8/31 Floor	AB 591 6/27 E.Q.	AB 591 6/14 N.R.&W.	AB 688 9/8 Floor	AB 753 6/28 Judiciary	AB 1062 9/8 Floor	AB 1319 8/30 Floor	SB 24 8/18 Floor	SB 147 5/2 B. P. & E.	SB 408 9/7 Floor	SB 558 6/1 Floor	SB 810 5/4 Health	SB 850 9/8 Floor	2011 Score	Lifetime Score
Alquist	DEM.	12	0	R	R	R	R	--	--	R	--	R	R	R	--	R	R	R	R	100%	94%
Anderson	REP.	2	9	W	W	W	W	--	--	W	--	W	W	R	--	W	W	W	W	18%	19%
Beryhill, T.	REP.	0	9	W	--	W	W*	--	--	W	--	W	W	W	--	W	W	--	W	0%	14%
Blakeslee	REP.	4	9	W	W	W	R	W*	--	R	R	W	W	R	--	W	W	W	W	31%	22%
Calderon, R.	DEM.	3	6	W*	--	W	W*	--	--	R	--	W	W	R	--	W*	R	--	R	33%	51%
Cannella	REP.	2	8	W	--	W	R	--	W	W	--	W	W	R	--	W	W	--	W	20%	20%
Corbett	DEM.	11	0	R	--	R	R	--	--	R	R	R	R	R	R	W	R	--	R	100%	100%
Correa	DEM.	5	5	W	--	R	R	--	--	R	--	W*	R	R	W	W	W*	--	R	50%	52%
de León	DEM.	9	1	R	R	R	W*	--	--	R	--	R	R	--	--	R	R	R	R	90%	92%
DeSaulnier	DEM.	11	0	R	R	R	R	--	--	R	--	R	R	R	--	R	R	R	R	100%	95%
Dutton	REP.	2	7	W	--	W	R	--	--	W	--	W	W	R	--	W	W	--	W	22%	17%
Emmerson	REP.	3	7	W	--	W	R	--	--	R	--	W	W*	R	W	W	W*	--	R	30%	19%
Evans	DEM.	11	0	R	--	R	R	--	R	R	R	R	R	R	--	R	R	--	R	100%	96%
Fuller	REP.	2	8	W	--	W	R	--	W	W	--	W	W	R	--	W	W	--	W	20%	16%
Gaines, T.	REP.	2	7	W	--	W	R	--	--	W	--	W	W	R	--	W	W	--	W	22%	16%
Hancock	DEM.	10	0	R	--	R	R	R	--	R	--	R	R	R	--	R	R	--	R	100%	99%
Harman	REP.	2	7	W	--	W	W*	--	--	R	W	W	--	R	--	W	W	--	W	22%	16%
Herrandez, E.	DEM.	7	5	W*	R	R	R	--	--	R	--	W	W*	R	W	R	W*	R	R	58%	75%
Huff	REP.	0	9	W	--	W	W*	--	--	W	--	W	W*	W	--	W	W	--	W	0%	13%
Kehoe	DEM.	11	0	R	--	R	R	R	R	R	--	R	R	R	--	R	R	--	R	100%	93%
La Malfa	REP.	1	9	W	--	W*	R	--	W	W	--	W	W	W	--	W	W	--	W	10%	11%
Leno	DEM.	10	0	R	--	R	R	--	--	R	R	R	R	R	--	R	R	--	R	100%	100%
Lieu	DEM.	8	1	R	--	R	R	--	--	R	--	W*	R	R	--	R	R	--	R	89%	88%
Liu	DEM.	8	1	R	--	W*	R	--	--	R	--	R	R	R	--	R	R	--	R	89%	96%
Lowenthal, A.	DEM.	10	0	R	--	R	R	R	--	R	--	R	R	R	--	R	R	--	R	100%	96%
Negrete McLeod	DEM.	3	6	R	--	R	--	--	--	W	--	W	W*	R	W	R	W*	--	R	33%	69%
Padilla	DEM.	10	0	R	--	R	R	--	R	R	--	R	R	R	--	R	R	--	R	100%	85%
Pavley	DEM.	11	0	R	--	R	R	R	R	R	--	R	R	R	--	R	R	--	R	100%	98%
Price	DEM.	8	2	R	--	R	R	--	R	R	--	W	R	R	W	R	R	--	R	80%	85%
Rubio	DEM.	7	4	R	W*	W	R	--	--	R	--	W*	R	R	--	R	R	W*	W*	64%	67%

Runner	REP.	2	6	W	--	W	R	R	--	--	W	--	R	R	--	W	W	--	W	25%	14%
Simittian	DEM.	10	1	R	--	R	R	R	W*	R	--	R	R	R	--	R	R	--	R	91%	98%
Steinberg	DEM.	9	0	R	--	R	R	R	--	R	--	R	R	R	--	R	R	--	R	100%	97%
Strickland	REP.	3	9	W	W	W	R	W	--	R	--	W	W	W	W	W	W	--	W	25%	21%
Vargas	DEM.	6	4	R	--	R	R	R	--	W*	--	W*	R	R	W	R	W*	--	W*	60%	74%
Walters	REP.	0	9	W	--	W	W*	W	--	W	--	W	W	W	--	W	W	--	W	0%	6%
Wolk	DEM.	11	1	R	R	W*	R	R	--	R	--	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	92%	92%
Wright	DEM.	6	3	W	--	R	R	R	--	R	--	W	W*	R	--	R	R	--	R	67%	65%
Wyland	REP.	2	8	W	--	W	R	R	--	W	--	W	W	W	W	W	W	--	W	20%	18%
Yee	DEM.	8	1	R	--	R	R	R	--	R	--	W	R	R	--	R	R	--	R	89%	81%

## Key Consumer Rights Bills

Bill Number	CFC Position	Summary and Status on 12/31/2011
AB 22 (Mendoza)	SUPPORT	Would prohibit a prospective employer from obtaining a job applicant's credit report if the report is not germane to the job duties. Signed into law.
AB 52 (Feuer)	SUPPORT	Would authorize Department of Insurance or Department of Managed Health Care to approve, modify or reject proposed health insurance or HMO premium rate increases. Inactive file.
AB 158 (Halderman)	OPPOSE	Would create an immunity from damage awards in lawsuits for manufacturers and distributors of harmful products, and for businesses that engaged in fraudulent or oppressive practices, based on their compliance with any state or federal regulation. Two year bill.
AB 183 (Ma)	SUPPORT	Would prohibit the sale of alcoholic beverages at unstaffed customer-operated checkout stands. Signed into law.
AB 403 (Campos)	SUPPORT	Would require the Department of Public Health and Department of Finance to promptly carry out duties not completed despite 2004 deadline for establishing a maximum safe drinking water standard for hexavalent chromium, a toxic carcinogen. Inactive file.
AB 591 (Wieckowski)	SUPPORT	Would requires oil and natural gas well operators to provide the Division of Oil, Gas and Geothermal Resources information on hydraulic fracturing (fracking) for publication on the Division's website. Two year bill.
AB 688 (Pan)	SUPPORT	Would prohibit the sale of infant formula, baby food and over the counter drugs after the "use by" date on product label. Signed into law.
AB 753 (Monning)	SUPPORT	Would prohibit rental car companies from renting a vehicle subject to a recall notice which has not been repaired as specified in the notice. Two year bill.
AB 935 (Blumenfeld)	SUPPORT	Would charge a mortgage servicer a foreclosure mitigation fee of 5% of the price for which a house was last sold (not to exceed \$20,000) before filing a notice of trustee sale, to compensate local schools and government agencies for losses due to foreclosures. Two year bill.
AB 1062 (Dickinson)	SUPPORT	Would eliminate the appeal of a court order denying a petition to compel arbitration to delay the processing of a lawsuit brought by a consumer, worker or other aggrieved person. Inactive file.
AB 1319 (Butler)	SUPPORT	Would ban toxic bisphenol A (BPA) above safe levels from containers of food and beverages intended for consumption by children age three or younger. Signed into law.
SB 24 (Simittian)	SUPPORT	Would require security breach notices to describe the nature of the breach and to inform consumer about how to contact credit reporting agencies. Signed into law.
SB 147 (Leno)	SUPPORT	Would require the Bureau of Home Furnishings and Thermal Insulation to develop a new smolder resistance standard, enabling California consumers to purchase furniture that is not filled with toxic flame retardant chemicals. Two year bill.
SB 408 (E. Hernandez)	SUPPORT	Would close a loophole in existing law and require a new owner of an existing licensed acute care, psychiatric, or special hospital, to apply to the Department of Public Health for a license to operate. Vetted.
SB 558 (Simittian)	SUPPORT	Would change the standard of proof in cases of elder or dependent adult physical abuse or neglect from clear and convincing evidence to a preponderance of the evidence. Suspend file.
SB 810 (Leno)	SUPPORT	Would establish a universal single-payer health insurance program. Held in Appropriations.
SB 850 (Leno)	SUPPORT	Would require electronic health records to keep a record of any information that is changed or deleted and would affirm the patient's right to access the information. Signed into law.