CRPE’s 2020 Legislative Priorities

Reduce Toxic Pollution in Environmental Justice Communities

Support: AB 995 (C. Garcia) - Accountability for the Department of Toxic Substances Control

Creates the Board of Environmental Safety (Board) in the California Environmental Protection Agency to provide oversight for the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC). Requires the Board to hold at least 6 public meetings a year to review DTSC’s programs, policies, and permit decisions.

Support: AB 345 (Muratsuchi) - Oil and Gas Health and Safety Zone

Requires the California Geologic Energy Management Division (CalGEM), by July 2022, to adopt regulations to protect public health and safety near oil and gas extraction facilities. In particular, this bill would require CalGEM to establish a protective setback distance between oil and gas activities and homes, schools, childcare facilities, healthcare facilities, and other sensitive locations and consider a 2,500 foot setback between drilling and places where children are present such as schools and playgrounds. Oil and gas extraction poses severe environmental, health, and safety risks to nearby communities, which are disproportionately low-income communities and communities of color.

Protect Public Health through the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

Oppose: SB 25 (Caballero) – Restrictions to Public Participation and Judicial Review

Restricts and expedites administrative and judicial review for projects financed by a dozen funds, agencies, and districts, such as federal opportunity zone funds and enhanced infrastructure financing districts. Significantly hinders the public’s ability to share their concerns on large industrial and commercial projects via public comment and limits their right to a fair legal process.

Keep Low-income Californians in Their Homes During the Pandemic

Support: AB 1436 (Chiu) – Eviction Protection

Stops a looming wave of evictions likely to result from the COVID-19 pandemic and the economic impacts of the state’s public health response by providing a path to address unpaid rent while keeping tenants housed. Other tenant protection bills we support include AB 3352 (Friedman), AB 2895 (Quirk-Silva), and AB 2782 (Stone).

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Last updated: August 4, 2020