

California's Paid Family Leave Coalition

Press Event Contact Information

First 5 California

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First 5 California (also known as the California Children and Families Commission) and 58 First 5 County Commissions were established after voters passed Proposition 10 in November 1998, adding a 50 cents-per-pack tax on cigarettes to fund education, health, child care and other programs for expectant parents and children up to age 5. Prop. 10 was designed to address the lack of public funding and support for early childhood development in the wake of a growing body of scientific evidence indicating that the emotional, physical, social and developmental environments to which children are exposed have a profound impact on their ability to reach their greatest potential in school and to become productive members of society.

Labor Project for Working Families

Contact: Netsy Firestein, Director - Work 510/643-6814; netsyf@berkeley.edu

The Labor Project for Working Families is a national, nonprofit organization that partners with unions to advocate for work/family policies including child care, elder care, family leave, and control over work hours. The Labor Project was one of the key organizations in the coalition that won paid family leave in California and is recognized nationally as a leader in labor work and family issues.

California Labor Federation

Contact: Chloe Osmer, Communications – Work 510/663-4051; cosmer@calaborfed.org

The California Labor Federation is the state AFL-CIO, with more than 1,200 affiliated local unions, representing 2.1 million union members in diverse communities and sectors of the state's economy. Manufacturing, service, retail, construction, public sector and private industry unions join together in the Federation to protect and advance the rights and interests of all California workers.

Legal Aid Society – Employment Law Center

Contact: Kim Kruckel, Paid Family Leave Coordinator - 415-864-8848; kkruckel@las-elc.org

Founded in 1916, the Legal Aid Society - Employment Law Center is one of the country's foremost social justice and advocacy organizations focusing on employment issues that arise from a changing society and diverse workforce. Its programs include Bay-Area wide community legal services to low-income individuals and families; social justice litigation that helps to enforce existing regulations or sets new precedents at the national and state level; leadership development of new generations of public interest lawyers and judicial activists; and legislative advocacy on behalf of different communities. LAS-ELC, together with Equal Rights Advocates, Labor Project for Working Families, Asian Law Caucus and California Women's Law Center, form the Paid Family Leave Collaborative, which offers hotlines, legal counseling, workshops and general information to the public.

Equal Rights Advocates

Contact: Ingrid Tischer, Communications Officer – Work 415/575-2381; ITischer@equalrights.org

Equal Rights Advocates has led the legal fight for women's equality for over 30 years. Since 1974, ERA's mission has been to protect and secure equal rights and economic opportunities for women and girls through litigation and advocacy. Women and girls continue to face unfair practices and policies in many workplaces and schools. Women in minimum wage jobs, women of color, and immigrant women are often among the most affected by this discrimination, which comes in many forms. ERA works to eliminate these forms of gender discrimination so all women can realize their full potential.

Asian Law Caucus

Contact: Joannie Chang, Director of Employment & Labor Projects - Work 415/896-1701 ext. 114; joanniec@asianlawcaucus.org

The mission of the Asian Law Caucus (ALC) is to promote, advance and represent the legal and civil rights of the Asian and Pacific Islander communities. Because many Asians and Pacific Islanders in the U.S. are low-income immigrants and refugees, the ALC strives to create an informed and educated community empowered to assert its rights and to participate actively in American society. This perspective is reflected in our broad strategy, which integrates the provision of legal services, educational programs, community organizing initiatives, and advocacy.

CA NOW

Contact: Rachel Allen, Public Relations Director – Work 415/302-0159; prdir@canow.org

California National Organization for Women (CA NOW) is the largest state feminist organization in the country, with 100,000 members and donors statewide. CA NOW is dedicated to fighting discrimination against women and girls, and working to ensure all women safety, health and equal opportunity.

Family Caregiver Alliance/National Center on Caregiving

Contact: Bonnie Lawrence Work: 415/434-3388 ext. 312; blawrence@caregiver.org

Established in 1977, Family Caregiver Alliance is one of the largest and oldest organizations in the US devoted solely to caregivers. Its pioneering programs—information, education, services, research and advocacy—support and sustain the important work of families and friends caring for loved ones with chronic, disabling health conditions. The National Center on Caregiving at Family Caregiver Alliance was established in 2001 to advance the development of high-quality, cost effective programs and policies for caregivers in every state in the country. FCA and the National Center on Caregiving offer programs at local, state and national levels. Visit www.caregiver.org for more information.

Joan Blades, co-author of *The Motherhood Manifesto*, co-founder of MoveOn.org and MomsRising.org

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