



Ken Cooley

California

State Assemblymember, HD-008 (D)

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25

Lifetime
Freedom
Score

CA Legislative Scorecard 2021-2022

Based on the Principles of the U.S. Constitution

✓ Pro-Freedom ✗ Anti-Freedom — Did not Vote

Vote

1. Would establish the California Commission on Human Rights to evaluate the state's protection of human rights as "defined, enumerated, or set forth by, but not limited to" the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights.



Pro-Freedom: **No** · Cast: **Yes** · AB412 · 09/02/2021

2. Contains the 2022 Budget Act, which, along with other related legislation, implements California's state budget of approximately \$307.9 billion for FY 2022-23.



Estimated cost per household: -\$23,499.00/year.

Pro-Freedom: **No** · Cast: **Yes** · SB154 · 06/13/2022

3. Requires California courts to order parents who do not sign a change of gender petition that has been filed on behalf of their minor child to show cause why the petition should not be granted by filing a written objection.



Pro-Freedom: **No** · AB421 · 06/20/2022

4. Would amend the California Constitution to include an individual's "fundamental right to choose to have an abortion."



Pro-Freedom: **No** · SCA10 · 06/27/2022

5. Requires a child to complete one year of kindergarten before that child may be admitted to the first grade at a public elementary school.



Pro-Freedom: **No** · Cast: **Yes** · SB70 · 08/18/2022

6. Would create several major provisions related to concealed carry weapons (CCW) licenses, such as raising the minimum age requirement to 21.



Pro-Freedom: **No** · Cast: **No** · SB918 · 09/01/2022

Scorecard Votes: 25%



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\$295,579

U.S. National Debt Per Household as of July 30, 2026

Why do these votes matter?

1. California Commission on Human Rights

AB412 would establish the California Commission on Human Rights, consisting of 17 members appointed from both the State Legislature and the public. This advisory commission would be required to identify and evaluate California's protection of human rights, including as "defined, enumerated, or set forth by, but not limited to" the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Human rights are natural, individual, and unalienable endowments from God, not positive grants by government subject to redefinition. The fundamental civil rights and liberties of the American people are protected by the U.S. Constitution's Bill of Rights and 14th Amendment. According to Article VI, Section 2, only the U.S. Constitution and the laws "made in Pursuance thereof," as well as all treaties made "under the authority of the United States," are to be the "supreme Law of the Land."

2. Budget

SB154 contains the 2022 Budget Act, which, along with other related legislation, implements California's state budget. The budget amounts to approximately \$307.9 billion in total state funds for FY 2022-23.

The \$307.9 billion spending plan relies heavily on unconstitutional federal funds, with federal dollars comprising about 47% of the entire budget as of July 1, 2022. This includes expansion of the state's Medicaid program to all eligible Californians regardless of immigration status. States should oppose the use of federal taxpayer money for purposes not authorized under Article 1, Section 8, of the U.S. Constitution.

3. Sexual Identity Changes for Minor Children

AB421 requires California courts to order parents who do not sign a change of gender petition that has been filed on behalf of their minor child (under 18 years of age) to show cause why the petition should not be granted by filing a written objection.

Authority over the upbringing of minor children belongs to--and is a fundamental right of--parents, not the government. Parental rights are protected by the U.S. Constitution's Bill of Rights and 14th Amendment. Moreover, Article VI, Section 2, of the U.S. Constitution requires that "Judges in every State shall be bound thereby," notwithstanding "anything in the Constitution or Laws of any State to the Contrary."

4. 'Right to Abortion' in the California Constitution

SCA10 would amend the California Constitution to include an individual's "fundamental right to choose to have an abortion."

States should act to ban abortion and guarantee the right to life for all persons. The right to life is the most fundamental, God-given, and unalienable right asserted in the Declaration of Independence and protected by the 5th and 14th Amendments to the U.S. Constitution.

5. State-Mandated Kindergarten

SB70 requires a child to complete one year of kindergarten before that child may be admitted to the first grade at a public elementary school.

A child's education is the responsibility of--and a fundamental right of choice retained by--the parents, not the government. Parental rights, as with all other constitutional rights, are protected by the Bill of Rights and the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

6. Concealed Carry Weapons (CCW) Restrictions

SB918 would create several major provisions related to concealed carry weapons (CCW) licenses, which include raising the minimum age requirement to 21, mandating that the training course no less than 16 hours in length, and prohibiting a number of areas in which CCW licensees are not allowed to carry.

The fundamental right of the American people to keep and bear arms should not be infringed, as guaranteed by the 2nd Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.