

August 10, 2018

Valley Industry & Commerce Association

VICAWEEKLY

Serving the San Fernando Valley cities of Los Angeles, Burbank, Glendale, Calabasas, Hidden Hills and San Fernando



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"We're being surprised. Every year is teaching the fire authorities new lessons. We're in uncharted territory."

- Governor Jerry Brown on the California wildfires

Media Mentions

Stuart Waldman
Discusses California Rent
Control
[Sunday Morning
Newsmakers](#)
August 5

Will Building Denser
Housing Along Transit
Routes Help Solve the
Housing Crisis?
[89.3 KPCC](#)
August 7

VICA Thanks our Renewing Members

Bronze Member

NORTHROP GRUMMAN

(2007)

VICA Advocates on Behalf of Valley Business Community in Sacramento



The VICA delegation joins Assemblymember Jesse Gabriel in Sacramento. From left to right: David Gonzalez (**Association of Independent Commercial Producers**), Matthew Welsh (Amgen), Ross Pendergraft (**Leavitt Group**), Assemblymember Jesse Gabriel and Nathan Purkiss (**Metropolitan Water District of Southern California**).

This week the California Legislature reconvened in Sacramento. VICA delegates traveled to the State Capitol to meet with Assemblymembers Marc Steinorth, Laura Friedman, Timothy Grayson, Adrin Nazarian, Patrick O'Donnell, Jacqui Irwin, Blanca Rubio, Jesse Gabriel and Sharon Quirk-Silva. The delegation also met with the staff of Senator Richard Pan. The delegation shared its concern about the recent *Dynamex* California Supreme Court Ruling, which will impact every sector of business by severely limiting the definition of independent contractor, far beyond previous tests used to determine if a worker is an independent contractor or employee. VICA also urged legislators to oppose SB 100 (de León), which sets a target for 100% renewable energy and creates increased costs for ratepayers; SB 623 (Monning), which would impose a

water tax and further burden underserved communities; and SB 1300 (Jackson), which would expose small and medium businesses to endless lawsuits. The delegation urged the legislature to support SB 905 (Wiener), which would empower local governments to

City National Bank
(2000)

Warner Bros.
(2016)

Calendar

The Week Ahead

Land Use Committee Meeting

Tuesday, August 14
8 to 10 a.m.

The Garland

4222 Vineland Ave., North Hollywood
Click [here](#) to RSVP

Government Affairs Committee Meeting

Sponsored by *Dolphin Group*

Wednesday, August 15
Noon to 2 p.m.

VICA Office

16600 Sherman Way, Suite 170, Van Nuys
Click [here](#) to RSVP

Local Officeholders Luncheon

Thursday, August 16
11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Sheraton Universal Hotel

333 Universal Hollywood Drive, Universal City
Click [here](#) to RSVP

Save the Date

VICA After Dark with Frank Miller

Wednesday, August 29
5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Burbank Airport Marriott

2500 N. Hollywood Way, Burbank
Click [here](#) to RSVP

Aviation Committee Meeting

Sponsored by *Aeroplex Aerolease Group*

Wednesday, September 5
Noon to 1:30 p.m.

Aerolease Associates Van Nuys East, 7943 Woodley

Ave., Van Nuys

Click [here](#) to RSVP

Entertainment Committee Meeting

Sponsored by *Sound City*
Thursday, September 6

drive tourism or other activities in six cities to permit the sale of alcoholic beverages for on-site consumption until 4 a.m.

Oppose Expensive and Unfeasible Mandate on Energy Production

VICA strongly opposes SB 100 (de León), which would increase California's Renewables Portfolio Standard (RPS) requirement from 50% to 60% by 2030 and set a goal of 100% clean energy by December 31, 2045. This bill adds expensive and unfeasible mandates on energy production in California.

Supporting clean energy is a laudable goal, but government mandates and overregulation are not the best way of achieving this outcome. Low cost, reliable energy is necessary for California's economy to continue robust growth and for California families to have access to affordable energy. Going to 100 percent clean energy will add negative pressures on the grid, ratepayers, and the state by jeopardizing existing affordable energy that has been proven to be reliable.



To oppose Senate Bill 100, click [here](#).

VICA Members Testify at Assembly Small Business Committee



Last week, VICA members Todd Schwartz (**Dickey's Barbecue Pit**) and Pam Elyea (**History for Hire**) testified before the Assembly Select Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship to share their experiences and challenges as small business owners. Convened by chair Assemblymember Laura Friedman, the committee heard from government agencies and small business owners

about resources available and discussed more action which could be taken by the state. The businesses raised issues including rising fees and costs, unintended consequences of labor regulations and how the state could support employers and employees by allowing changes, such as a flexible work week.

Oppose Increased Litigation Against Employers



VICA OPPOSE

VICA strongly opposes Senate Bill 1300 (Jackson), which would expose businesses to endless lawsuits over sexual harassment claims, ban resolving issues through settlements, and increase training and compliance costs. It also fails to protect victims by limiting settlement agreements which are beneficial to both parties, forcing cases to go through the legal system. Under SB 1300, a claimant would not need to prove that they were the victim of sexual harassment, only that the employer failed to take all steps necessary to prevent harassment. SB 1300 opens the door to endless lawsuits from opportunistic attorneys on behalf of employees who have not actually suffered any harm. Sexual harassment is insidious, difficult to define, and reflects our wider society and culture. The Legislature has a role to play in this societal conversation, and employers have an (existing) duty to take steps to prevent sexual harassment. However, SB 1300 goes too far and will not address the cultural issues which allow sexual harassment to continue.

[VIEW FULL CALENDAR
HERE](#)

Hot Issues

Aliso Canyon Southern California Gas Co. will pay out \$119.5 million under the terms of a [settlement](#) disclosed this week, covering claims lodged against the company over the 2015 gas leak at its Aliso Canyon natural gas facility. Under the terms, **SoCalGas** will also reimburse city, county and state governments for costs associated with their response to the leak.

Cal-3 is No More
The billionaire behind a measure to split California in three said he's [giving up](#) on the effort to reimagine the nation's most populous state after the state Supreme Court knocked the measure off the November ballot.

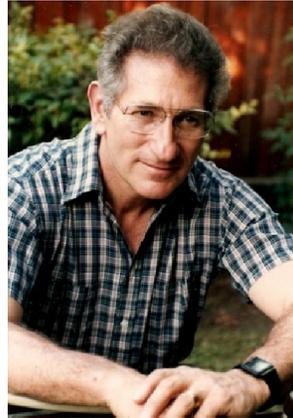
Census
According to new analysis by the nonpartisan Public Policy Institute of California, the U.S. Census Bureau stands to [undercount](#) millions of Californians across the state in its 2020 survey, an error that could result in less federal funding or the loss of a congressional seat.

Fire Risk Reduction
Although President Trump has tweeted in support of tree clearing as a tactic to fight against California's multiplying wildfires, forestry experts say the federal government is still not prioritizing [fire mitigation](#) to the scale that is needed.

Health Insurance
In response to the federal government's expansion of health insurers' ability to sell so-called skinny insurance plans, the

To oppose SB 1300, click [here](#).

Send VICA Your Nominations for the 2018 Harmon Ballin Award



VICA's Harmon Ballin Community Service Award annually honors an active VICA member who has made an outstanding contribution to our community through their long-term community service activities. A nominee is someone who:

1. Has been an active VICA member and is actively engaged in the organization currently
2. Has significant and long-term involvement in philanthropic and community/public serve organizations or a significant record in that area
3. Is a role model as a community leader

Please submit your nomination to Jessica@vica.com by Friday, August 31.

Join VICA's 2018 Board of Directors

VICA's 2019 Board of Directors nomination and selection process is underway, and we want your nominations! Board members must be able to attend regular board meetings and be prepared to vote on a wide variety of public policy issues. Board members must also attend regular committee meetings and VICA events. Additional responsibilities may include calling or writing lawmakers, attending press conferences, testifying, authoring editorials, interacting with top opinion leaders and more. For more information on the 2019 Board of Directors guidelines, click [here](#).

If you or someone you know is interested in participating on the board in 2019, please click on the nomination form below and submit to Jessica@vica.com. If you don't want to serve on the board, but are interested in serving as a committee chair, please let us know that on the nomination form. Applications are due by Friday, August 31.

Click [here](#) for the Board of Directors Nomination Form.

Committee Report

Energy, Environment & Utilities Committee (08/10)

Sponsored by the **Metropolitan Water District of Southern California**

- Carolina Hernandez from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works presented to the committee on the LA River Master Plan Update.
- The committee heard from **WSPA's** Argelia Leon on cap-and-trade regulations and implementation post-AB 398. Alonzo Hill from the **California Resources Corporation** also presented to committee members on California's Oil and Natural Gas Industry.
- The committee recommended guiding principles related to **AQMD's** proposal to create a local sales tax ballot measure that would raise funds for their Air Quality Management Plan. The intent is for a quarter or half cent sales tax to be placed on the 2020 ballot.



California Legislature is seeking to ban such insurance. SB 910 (Hernandez) would outlaw issuance or renewal of any health plan shorter than 12 months in duration.

Homelessness

The L.A. County Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to create a pilot program to assist people living in vehicles and to reduce the hazards associated with vehicle dwelling. The program will consist of outreach to people living in their cars, vans and RVs to connect them with social services, money to discourage the use and reuse of dilapidated RVs as dwellings, and solid- and hazardous-waste collection program.

Press

According to a new poll, 43 percent of Republicans believe President Trump should be able to shut down news outlets. In recent months, President Trump has said the "press is the enemy of the American people."

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The advertisement features a red banner with white and yellow text. Below the banner is a photograph of a group of people, including a man in a blue shirt and several women, gathered around a picnic table with food. In the background, a roller coaster is visible against a blue sky.

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Member Messages:

Get Your Message in VICA Weekly!

VICA members can promote their business, events and news in VICA Weekly. Member messages are available for \$50 per week or \$175 for four weeks. Messages are text-based and may not contain more than 70 words. A logo may be added for an additional \$5 per week. For more information or to schedule your member message, contact Helene@vica.com or call (818) 817-0545.

ABOUT VICA

Presenting the business perspective on behalf of employers in the San Fernando Valley cities of Los Angeles, Burbank, Glendale, Calabasas, Hidden Hills, San Fernando and Santa Clarita.

Read more about VICA at vica.com.

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