



2023-2024 California Clean Money Scorecard

A review of elected officials' votes for Fair Elections and Good Government by the
California Clean Money Action Fund

**BIG
MONEY**

**BIG
IDEAS**

Which Side Are You On?

Clean Money Scorecard for the 2023-2024 Session

Holding Elected Officials Accountable for Actions on Fair Elections

After past victories in the fight against Big Money special interests, the 2023-2024 legislative session found California leading the nation in powerful laws to check AI's influence in elections, but also had some disappointments.

Thanks to past Clean Money victories, California has the strongest disclosure laws in the country. In 2017, we passed the *California DISCLOSE Act* (AB 249), the toughest political ad disclosure law anywhere. We built on that by passing the *Social Media DISCLOSE Act* (AB 2188) in 2018, the *Text Message DISCLOSE Act* (SB 47) and *Petition DISCLOSE Act* (AB 201) in 2019, and the *Disclosure Clarity Act* (SB 1360) and *Ballot DISCLOSE Act* (AB 1416) in 2022.

In the 2023-2024 legislative session the major focus of California Clean Money Campaign and our good government allies was on allowing public funding of campaigns, further increasing disclosure, addressing the growing problem of artificial intelligence (AI) deepfakes, and protecting California's anti-corruption laws.

The legislature's record was mixed. It passed several nation-leading laws protecting voters against being deceived by AI deepfakes and protecting California's anti pay-to-play laws for local officials. However, top priority Clean Money bills to help ensure elections are won not bought by allowing public funding of campaigns anywhere in California were stopped. Additionally, the legislature killed a no-brainer bill that would have required better disclosure of who pays for travel for elected officials while it actually passed a bill that gutted the state's strongest local anti-corruption law.

Big Money special interests have dominated California for far too long. Our pro-democracy laws are needed because voters' voices are drowned out by the billions spent by special interests in this era of entrenched unlimited secret spending by corporations, unions, and billionaires unleashed by the Supreme Court's outrageous *Citizens United* decision in 2010. It's corrupting our democracy and government.

Good government organizations like *California Clean Money Campaign*, *California Common Cause*, and *League of Women Voters of California* regularly work with thoughtful legislators to propose strong new bills to improve campaign disclosure and to lessen the dominance of Big Money in California politics.

Unfortunately, such bills are often opposed by the same Big Money special interests whose undue influence they would curb. Many legislators have benefited from large campaign contributions and spending by those interests. And even legislators who haven't benefited often fear the huge amounts those interests might spend against them if they aren't compliant. This dynamic makes passing strong laws for fair elections especially challenging — and all the more urgent.

Sunlight Is the Best Disinfectant

That's why *California Clean Money Action Fund*, the 501(c)(4) political advocacy arm of *California Clean Money Campaign*, creates the California Clean Money Scorecard after each legislative session. The scorecard for the last session (2023-2024) is our seventh.

Voters need to know which legislators are Clean Money Champions — the strongest advocates for the **Big Idea** that regular voters should have greater information and power in elections — and which stand more often with **Big Money** special interests against true pro-democracy reforms.



Clean Money Champion Assemblymember Alex Lee (D-San Jose), author of AB 270 the *California Fair Elections Act*, speaking with a bullhorn to Clean Money supporters at the *Rally for Fair Elections and Democracy* on the State Capitol steps on August 12th.

How We Score Legislators

This 2023-2024 scorecard covers eleven bills supported by *California Clean Money Campaign* to improve transparency and fairness in elections and government including four bills that we sponsored. It also covers two bills we opposed.

The four bills that *California Clean Money Campaign* sponsored count as double in the scorecard. Our very top priority bills were **SB 24 (Umberg-Allen)** and **AB 270 (Lee-Cervantes)** the *California Fair Elections Act* to put a measure on the ballot to repeal the ban on public funding of campaigns, which unfortunately were both killed in the Appropriations Committees. We also sponsored **SB 681 (Allen)** to make it easier to make crucial amendments to Political Reform Act bills, which was signed into law in 2023, and **SB 1422 (Allen)** the *Travel DISCLOSE Act* to increase disclosure of who pays for travel for elected officials, which unfortunately was killed in the Senate Appropriations Committee this year.

Five nation-leading bills to protect voters from AI deepfakes are on the scorecard. Four were signed into law: **AB 2839 (Pellerin)**, to ban materially deceptive AI deepfakes; **AB 2655 (Berman)**, the *Defending Democracy from Deepfake Deception Act of 2024*; **AB 2355 (Carrillo)**, requiring disclosure on political ads that include deepfakes; and **SB 942 (Becker)**, the *California Artificial Intelligence Transparency Act*. One bill that would have gone even further than SB 942 to identify AI deepfakes, **AB 3211 (Wicks)**, the *California Provenance, Authenticity and Watermarking Standards Act*, died on the Senate floor. Two bills that improved existing pay-to-play regulations, **SB 1181 (Glazer)** and **SB 1243 (Dodd)**, were signed into law.

Finally, the scorecard includes two bills opposed by *California Clean Money Campaign* and our partners at California Common Cause among others: **AB 2911 (McKinnor)** which would have increased the amount of money that special interests could give to local officials who are deciding their applications from \$250 to \$1,500; and **AB 3211 (Jones-Sawyer)** which severely weakened the ethics and pay-to-play restrictions for the Los Angeles Metropolitan Transit Authority.



Insider Scores

Actions that legislators take behind the scenes can be just as important as their votes, and often even more important.

The Clean Money Scorecard takes this into account by giving a **“Insider Score Bonus”** to legislators who author or co-author the bills on the scorecard or otherwise make an extra effort to pass them. In contrast, when legislators block progress behind the scenes or lead on bills opposed by good government organizations, they get an **“Insider Score Penalty”**.

Insider Scores allow the scorecard to go beyond the public voting record to highlight legislators who stand out as **real Clean Money Champions**. Insider Scores are listed in the tables showing legislators scores.

Scoring Legislators’ Clean Money Votes, Not Fundraising

The scorecard does not say anything about how “clean” a legislator’s fundraising is and does not assess their voting record on non-Clean Money bills. Until we have Clean Money public financing of campaigns, all candidates must obtain their campaign contributions from private sources.

Instead, the Clean Money Scorecard focuses exclusively on how often legislators advocate, help, and vote for legislation to help improve our election and government systems to further democracy.

Top Priority Bills on the Clean Money Scorecard – SB 24 (Umberg-Allen) & AB 270 (Lee-Cervantes), the *California Fair Elections Act*

Californians are rightly concerned they lack a full voice in elections because their small contributions can't compete with big secret money from wealthy interests. In a recent California Clean Money Campaign poll, 81% of likely California voters said Big Money campaign contributors have too much influence over elected officials in California. 63% said that ordinary voters have too little influence.

Five charter cities have active public campaign financing systems that amplify the voices of everyday voters and provide candidates with an alternative fundraising system to relying on large wealthy donors. Currently, such programs are prohibited in California jurisdictions other than charter cities due to a provision added to the Political Reform Act by Proposition 73 in 1988.

Two bills, **SB 24**, authored by Senators **Tom Umberg** (D-Santa Ana) and **Ben Allen** (D-El Segundo), and AB 270, authored by Assemblymembers **Alex Lee** (D-San Jose) and **Sabrina Cervantes** (D-Corona), would have put the *California Fair Elections Act* on the November 2026 ballot to allow voters to repeal the ban on public funding and establish reasonable requirements that public financing systems and candidates using public funding must follow. Both bills were sponsored by *California Clean Money Campaign*, *California Common Cause*, and *League of Women Voters of California*.

Details: www.yesfairelections.org/content/pdf/endorsements/coalition_ab270_support.pdf

Both Bills Blocked But Will Be Back. SB 24 passed the Senate on an overwhelming vote of 31-8 and then passed the Assembly Elections Committee on a vote of 6-1, but was “held” in the Assembly Appropriations Committee, killing it for the session. Similarly, AB 270 passed the Assembly on an overwhelming vote of 59-18 and then passed the Senate Elections Committee on a vote of 6-1, but was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee, also killing it for the session.

We will go forward with new versions of the bills in 2025, which will still be in time for a measure to be put on the November 2026 ballot, but the Appropriations Committees’ decisions to kill both bills without votes were still gravely disappointing.

Scoring. As bills sponsored by *California Clean Money Campaign*, SB 24 and AB 270 both count as double on the scorecard.

Authors of SB 24, Senators Umberg and Allen, and authors of AB 270, Assemblymembers Lee and Cervantes, all receive a 20% Insider Score bonus for authoring and leading on these crucial bills.

Special thanks (and 15% Insider Score bonuses) go to principal coauthors of both bills, Senate Elections Committee Chair **Catherine Blakespear** and Senator **Henry Stern**. Thanks also go to all the coauthors of both bills listed on the charts on pages 10-12.

The death of SB 24 in the Assembly Appropriations Committee is the responsibility of Chair **Buffy Wicks** and Assembly Speaker **Robert Rivas**. The death of AB 270 in the Senate Appropriations Committee is the responsibility of Chair **Anna Caballero** and Senate President pro Tem **Mike McGuire**. All receive negative Insider penalty scores of -15% for killing these top priority bills.

21 State, National, and Local Organizations Supported SB 24 and AB 270



Senator Tom Umberg
Author SB 24



Senator Ben Allen
Joint Author SB 24



Assemblymember
Alex Lee
Author AB 270



Assemblymember
Sabrina Cervantes
Joint Author AB 270

Other Sponsored Bills on the Clean Money Scorecard

SB 681 (Allen): Political Reform Act Deadline Reform

Authored by Senator **Ben Allen** (D-El Segundo) and sponsored by *California Clean Money Campaign*, SB 681 was signed into law last year to make it easier to strengthen campaign finance, disclosure, and lobbying laws.

The Political Reform Act (PRA) specified that the legislature may make amendments that further its purposes with two-thirds votes if the public is given enough time to weigh in. This has been an important safeguard to ensure the public has plenty of time to examine and weigh in on amendments to the Act.

However, the 12 days required before SB 681 often left little and sometimes no time to negotiate important final amendments after bills get off the Appropriations suspense file. By shortening the PRA Final Form deadline to 8 days, SB 681 gives authors more time to make any needed amendments while still ensuring the public has plenty of time to evaluate and weigh in before the final vote.

Details: www.yesfairelections.org/content/pdf/endorsements/ccmc_sb681_support.pdf

Support for SB 681: SB 681 was sponsored by *California Clean Money Campaign* and supported by the *Fair Political Practices Commission* which enforces the Political Reform Act.

SB 681 was signed into law: SB 681 was signed into law by Governor Newsom last October 8th (2023). It had passed the Senate and Assembly on overwhelming votes of 32-0 and 61-1, respectfully.

Scoring. As a bill sponsored by *California Clean Money Campaign*, SB 681 counts as double on the scorecard. Senator Allen as author receives a 20% Insider Score bonus for authoring it.



Senator Ben Allen
Author SB 681

SB 1422 (Allen): Travel DISCLOSE Act

Authored by Senator **Ben Allen** (D-El Segundo) and sponsored by *California Clean Money Campaign*, SB 1422, the *Travel DISCLOSE Act*, would have removed an exception in current law that allows most organizations to avoid reporting when they pay for elected officials' travel expenses and would have expanded the required reports so they must disclose other important information to the public.

SB 1422 is needed because despite legislators reporting millions of dollars in travel expenses paid for by nonprofits, corporations, and individuals, only two nonprofits disclosed the donors who paid for that travel in the previous eight years.

SB 1422 would have required any organization, corporation, or individual that pays over \$10,000 in a year for travel of elected officials to disclose which trips and elected officials they paid for, along with which of their donors of \$1,000 or more accompanied them or knowingly paid for the travel.

Details: www.yesfairelections.org/content/pdf/endorsements/ccmc_sb1422_coalition.pdf

Support for SB 1422: 53 state, local, and national organizations supported SB 1422: California Clean Money Campaign, Californians for Disability Rights, Center for Biological Diversity, Clean Coalition, Consumer Federation of California, Consumer Watchdog, Courage California, Endangered Habitats League, Indivisible CA: Statestrong, League of Women Voters of California, Money Out People In, Money Out Voters In, Progressive Democrats of America, RootsAction.org, Voices for Progress, Voters Right to Know, and 37 local organizations.

Over 3,500 Californians signed *California Clean Money Action Fund* petitions for SB 1422.

Status of SB 1422: SB 1422 passed the Senate Elections Committee 7-0 but was killed in the Senate Appropriations Committee for unknown reasons.

Scoring. As a bill sponsored by *California Clean Money Campaign*, SB 1422 counts as double on the scorecard. Senator Allen as author receives a 20% Insider Score bonus for authoring it.

The death of SB 1422 in the Senate Appropriations Committee is the responsibility of Senator Appropriations Committee Chair **Anna Caballero** and Senate President pro Tem **Mike McGuire**. Both receive negative Insider penalty scores of -15% for killing this priority sponsored disclosure bill.



Senator Ben Allen
Author SB 1422

Artificial Intelligence Bills on the Clean Money Scorecard

AB 2839 (Pellerin): Ban Materially Deceptive AI Deepfakes

Authored by Assemblymembers **Gail Pellerin** (D-Santa Cruz) and **Marc Berman** (D-Palo Alto) and sponsored by **California Common Cause's California Initiative for Technology and Democracy**, AB 2839 bans knowing distribution of artificial intelligence (AI) deepfakes of candidates, elected officials, and elections officials in political advertising or other election communications that are reasonably likely to harm the reputation of candidates or undermine confidence in the outcome of the election. It gives an exemption for satire if communications are clearly labeled as such.

Details: www.yesfairelections.org/content/pdf/endorsements/coalition_ab2839_support.pdf

Now law. AB 2839 was signed into law by Governor Newsom in 2024 after passing the Assembly and Senate on overwhelming bipartisan votes of 63-8 and 32-2. As an "urgency" bill it went into effect immediately after it was signed although it is currently being challenged in the courts.



Assemblymember
Gail Pellerin
Author AB 2839

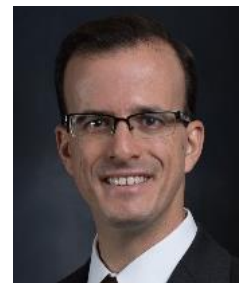
AB 2655 (Berman): Defending Democracy from Deepfake Deception Act of 2024

Authored by Assemblymembers **Marc Berman** (D-Palo Alto) and **Gail Pellerin** (D-Santa Cruz) and sponsored by **California Common Cause's California Initiative for Technology and Democracy**, AB 2655 requires large online platforms to block or label the same kind of deepfakes AB 2839 bans when they get complaints. It also gives an exemption for satire if it's labeled as such.

Details: www.yesfairelections.org/content/pdf/endorsements/coalition_ab2655_support.pdf

Signed into law. AB 2655 was signed into law by Governor Newsom in 2024 after passing the Assembly and Senate on votes of 59-12 and 31-9. It will go into effect in 2025.

Scoring. AB 2655 faced the most serious opposition from Big Tech of any of the AI bills, so Senate Appropriations Committee Chair Anna Caballero, Senate President pro Tem Mike McGuire, Assembly Appropriations Committee Chair Buffy Wicks, and Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas get an Insider Bonus for helping ensure it got out of the their respective Appropriations Committees to get floor votes.



Assemblymember
Marc Berman
Author AB 2655

AB 2355 (Carrillo): Disclosure of Deepfakes on Political Ads

Authored by Assemblymember **Wendy Carrillo** (Los Angeles), AB 2355 addresses AI deepfakes in political advertisements, requiring them to clearly disclose on the ads when they are "generated or substantially altered using artificial intelligence" whether or not they are materially deceptive deepfakes of candidates, elected officials, or election officials. **California Clean Money Campaign** worked with Assemblymember Carrillo to ensure the disclosures fit in with the clear and prominent disclosures of the *California DISCLOSE Act* that it sponsored.

Details: www.yesfairelections.org/content/pdf/endorsements/ccmc_ab2355_support.pdf

Signed into law. AB 2355 was signed into law by Governor Newsom in 2024 after passing the Assembly and Senate on unanimous bipartisan votes of 75-0 and 40-0. It will go into effect in 2025.



Assemblymember
Wendy Carrillo
Author AB 2355

Artificial Intelligence Bills on the Clean Money Scorecard

AB 3211 (Wicks): California Provenance, Authenticity and Watermarking Standards (PAWS) Act

Authored by Assemblymember **Buffy Wicks** (D-Oakland), AB 3211, the *California Provenance, Authenticity and Watermarking Standards (PAWS) Act*, would have increased transparency about the source of AI-generated content and helped facilitate enforcement of AB 2355, AB 2655, and AB 2839.

AB 3211 would have ensured that people can determine what was created by artificial intelligence by (1) requiring generative AI providers to include provenance disclosures (i.e. hidden watermarks) in the content they generate that identifies the name of the provider and the generative AI system that created it, (2) requiring large online platforms to label content that has such watermarks, and (3) requiring newly manufactured recording devices to offer users the option to apply difficult to remove provenance data to the content they produce to prove it is real and not AI content.



Assemblymember
Buffy Wicks
Author AB 3211

Details: www.yesfairelections.org/content/pdf/endorsements/ccmc_3211_support.pdf

Didn't Get Vote on Assembly Floor. Although AB 3211 was supported by a broad coalition of good government and organizations, AB 3211 faced powerful opposition from Big Tech. It passed the Assembly 62-0, passed the Senate Judiciary Committee 8-2, passed the Senate Governmental Organization Committee 10-2, and passed the Senate Appropriations Committee 4-2, but died after it didn't get a vote on the Senate floor.

SB 942 (Becker): CA Artificial Intelligence Transparency Act

Authored by Senator **Josh Becker** (D-San Mateo), SB 942, the *California Artificial Intelligence Transparency Act*, is similar to AB 3211 in that it increases transparency about the source of AI-generated content and helps facilitate enforcement of AB 2355, AB 2655, and AB 2839.

SB 942 ensures people can determine what was created by artificial intelligence by requiring generative AI providers to (1) include provenance disclosures in the content they generate that identifies the name of the provider and the generative AI system that created it, and (2) make available an AI detection tool that can assess whether any piece of image, video, or audio content was created or altered by that provider's system.



Senator Josh Becker

Details: www.yesfairelections.org/content/pdf/endorsements/cited_sb942_support.pdf

Signed into law. SB 942 was signed into law by Governor Newsom in 2024 after passing the Senate and Assembly on nearly unanimous bipartisan votes of 35-2 and 73-0. It will go into effect in 2025.

Scoring. The votes on SB 942 aren't scored because California Clean Money Campaign did not take a position on it while it was in the legislature since we initially prioritized AB 3211 that also included important requirements on large online platforms and recording device manufacturers. We did, however, strongly support it once it got to the Governor's desk, so we gave Senator Becker a well-deserved "Insider Bonus" for his leadership authoring it and getting it signed into law.

Pay-To-Play Regulation Bills

SB 1181 (Glazer) & SB 1243 (Dodd): Local Pay-to-Play Reform

Two years ago, the legislature passed SB 1439 (Glazer) with overwhelming bipartisan support to end the loophole in the Political Reform Act's pay-to-play prevention exempting local elected officials.

SB 1181 (Glazer) and SB 1243 (Dodd) addressed issues that have come up in implementation of SB 1243 by banning agents to parties or participants (such as lobbyists) from making contributions to officers while a proceeding is pending. They also ease compliance and enforcement by excluding types of contracts, reviews, and renewals that are highly unlikely to raise pay-to-play concerns, while setting the maximum allowed contribution at \$500 instead of \$250, a reasonable increase since 1992.

Details: www.yesfairelections.org/content/pdf/endorsements/ccmc_lwvc_sb1243_support.pdf

Now law. Both SB 1181 and SB 1243 were signed into law by Governor Newsom in 2024. SB 1181 passed the Senate and Assembly on unanimous votes of 40-0 and 74-0.

SB 1243 had a much more contentious path to the Governor's desk because it was originally opposed by California Clean Money Campaign, California Common Cause, League of Women Voters of California, and others due to its language that would have raised the limit from \$250 to \$1,000 and shortened the times that parties had to abide by pay-to-play restrictions. To his credit, Senator Dodd negotiated with California Clean Money Campaign and Common Cause to remove the problematic provisions, allowing California Clean Money Campaign and the League of Women Voters to support it and the rest to remove opposition. It then passed the Senate and Assembly on votes of 40-0 and 71-0.

Scoring. The scorecard only scores SB 1181, which was supported by CCMC the whole way. Senators and Assemblymembers that stood with good government groups against SB 1243 while we opposed it received Insider Bonuses, especially Senate Elections Committee Chair Catherine Blakespear (D-Laguna Hills) whose leadership to fix SB 1243 was particularly strong and effective.



Senator Steve
Glazer



Senator Bill Dodd

Opposed AB 2911 (McKinnor): Gut Local Pay-to-Play Reform

AB 2911 (McKinnor) was strongly opposed by California Clean Money Campaign, California Common Cause, League of Women Voters of California, and many others because it would have exploded the amount developers and city contractors could give to local officials who were presiding over their proposals by a factor of six, from \$250 to \$1,500.

Details: www.yesfairelections.org/content/pdf/endorsements/coalition_ab2911_oppose.pdf

Stopped in Senate Elections Committee. AB 2911 passed the Assembly on a vote of 63-0 with 17 not voting, but died in the Senate Elections Committee without getting a motion for a vote after our opposition.

Scoring. Because nobody in the Senate voted on AB 2911, we didn't count votes on AB 2911 except to give its author Assemblymember McKinnor a 10% Insider penalty because she never offered to compromise and to give Insider bonuses to Assemblymembers and to Senators on the Elections Committee who stood up for protecting existing law by not voting for it.

Opposed AB 3123 (Jones-Sawyer): Weakens LA MTA Anti-Corruption Rules

In 1997, the legislature put into law the strongest ethics rules in the state for the Los Angeles Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA) after a number of public scandals that made the public lose confidence in the agency.

AB 3123 (Jones-Sawyer) was opposed by California Clean Money Campaign, California Common Cause, and many others because it substantially weakens long-standing MTA restrictions on how much construction companies and others seeking contracts with the agency could contribute or give as gifts to MTA board members or employees. State laws would still apply, but they're not nearly as strong as the longstanding MTA restrictions.

Details: www.yesfairelections.org/content/pdf/endorsements/coalition_ab3123_oppose.pdf

Signed into law. Unfortunately, AB 3123 was signed into law by Governor Newsom in 2024 after passing the Assembly and Senate on votes of 50-14 and 26-11. Neither vote reached the 2/3 required for changes to the Political Reform Act, but because AB 3123 only amended the Transportation Code, it passed with majority votes anyway.

Scoring. AB 3123 was scored in the scorecard, with "Yes" votes counting against legislators' and "No" votes or abstentions counting in favor of the legislators, though we counted it less than normal because CCMC's opposition came in relatively late.

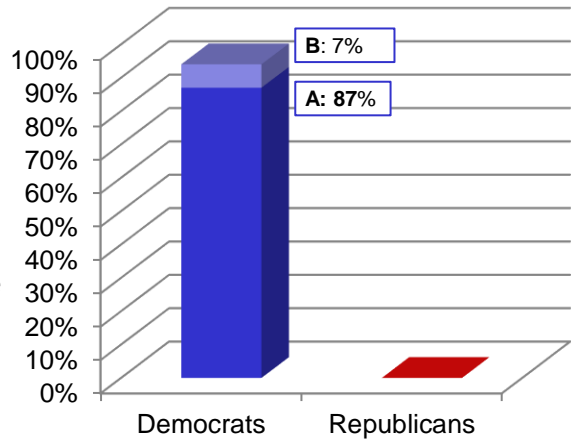
How Clean Did Assemblymembers Score?

89% of Assembly Democrats (54 of 62) earned an “A” on the 2023-2024, though 52% (32 of 62) were A- because they voted for AB 3123 that California Clean Money Campaign opposed. 7% (4 of 62) earned a “B”, 5% (3 of 62) earned a C+, and 2% (1 of 62) earned a D+.


6 Democrats stood out as Clean Money Champions with an A+ for their votes plus particularly strong leadership.

On average, Republicans didn’t score nearly as high. None earned As, Bs, or even Cs. All but 4 (out of 18) did vote the right way on enough bills on the scorecard to avoid an F, which is more than can be said for Congressional Republicans.

% With Top Clean Money Grades




Clean Money Champions: Highest-Scoring Assemblymembers



Sabrina Cervantes
(D-Corona)
Author
AB 270
Principal
SB 24, SB 681,
AB 2335, AB 2839,
AB 2655
Highest Score



Marc Berman
(D-Los Altos)
Author
AB 2839
AB 2655
Floor Manager
SB 1181



Laura Friedman
(D-Burbank)
Floor Manager
SB 681



Alex Lee
(D-San Mateo)
Author
AB 270
Principal
SB 24



Gail Pellerin
(D-Santa Cruz)
Author
AB 2839
AB 2655



Pilar Schiavo
(D-Santa Clarita)
Coauthor
AB 270, SB 24

Highest-Scoring Republican Assemblymembers



Juan Alanis
(R-Modesto)
Voted Clean
5/8 scorecard bills



Laurie Davies
(R-Oceanside)
Voted Clean
5/8 scorecard bills



Marie Waldron
(R-San Diego)
Voted Clean
5/8 scorecard bills

Lowest-Scoring Assemblymembers

- Bill Essayli (Corona): F
- Vince Fong (R-Bakersfield): F
- Tom Lackey (R-Palmdale): F
- Jim Patterson (R-Fresno): F

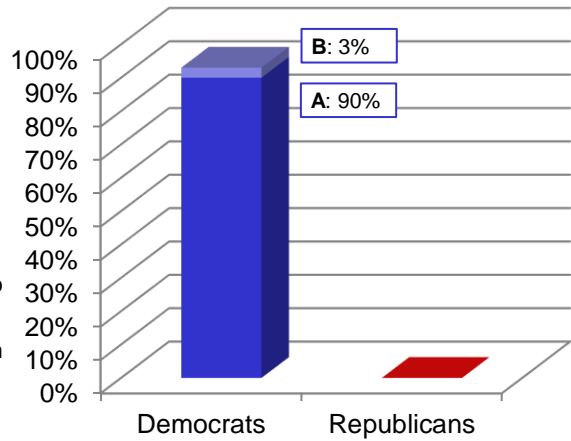
How Clean Did State Senators Score?

90% of Senate Democrats (28 of 31) earned an “A” on the 2023-2024, though 39% (12 of 31) received an A- because they voted for all the bills California Clean Money Campaign supported but also voted for AB 3123 that it opposed. 3% (1 of 31) earned a “B” and 7% (2 of 31) earned a C.


6 Democrats stood out as Clean Money Champions with an A+ for their votes plus particularly strong leadership.

On average, Republicans didn’t score nearly as high. None earned As or Bs, and only one even earned a C-. But all but 1 (out of 9), voted the right way on enough bills on the scorecard to avoid Fs, which is more than can be said for Congressional Republicans. Senator Marie Alvarado-Gil, who earned that C-, is a special case because she was elected as a Democrat but switched to be a Republican on August 8th 2024.

% With Top Clean Money Grades



Clean Money Champions: Highest-Scoring Senators



Ben Allen
(D-El Segundo)
Author SB 681
SB 1422, SB 24
Principal
AB 270
Highest Score



Josh Becker
(D-San Mateo)
Author SB 942
Coauthor SB 24
AB 270
AB 2839



Catherine Blakespear
(D-Laguna Hills)
Principal SB 24, AB 270
Floor Manager AB 2839
Leadership SB 1243, AB 2911



Steve Glazer
(D-Orinda)
Author SB 1181



Henry Stern
(D-Calabasas)
Principal SB 24
AB 270



Tom Umberg
(D-Santa Ana)
Author SB 24
Principal AB 270
Floor Manager AB 2655

Highest-Scoring Republican Senators



Marie Alvarado-Gil
(R-Santa Clarita)
Voted Clean
5/8 scorecard bills



Scott Wilk
(R-Santa Clarita)
Floor Manager AB 2355
Voted Clean
3/8 scorecard bills

Lowest-Scoring Senators

Brian Dahle (R-Redding): D-
Shannon Grove (R-Bakersfield): D-
Brian Jones (R-San Diego): D-
Janet Nguyen (Huntington Beach): F

Roger Niello (R-Roseville): D-
Rosalice (R-Bakersfield): D-
Rosilicie Ochoa Bogh (R-Redlands): D-

Assemblymembers' Votes on Scored Items

Assemblymember	Party	District	SB 24: California Fair Elections Act	AB 270: California Fair Elections Act	SB 681: PRA Deadline Reform	SB 1422: Travel DISCLOSE Act	AB 2355: AI/Political Ad Disclosures	AB 2839: Ban Deceptive Deepfakes	AB 2655: Platforms Deepfakes	AB 3211: AI Watermarks	SB 1181: Reform Levine Act	AB 3123: Weaken Pay-to-Play Rules*	Insider Score**	Grade
Addis, Dawn	D	30	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	0	2	A
Aguiar-Curry, Cecilia	D	4	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A-
Alanis, Juan	R	22	---	✗	✗	---	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	0		D+
Alvarez, David	D	80	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A-
Arambula, Joaquin	D	31	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A-
Bains, Jasmeet	D	35	---	o	o	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		D+
Bauer-Kahan, Rebecca	D	16	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A-
Bennett, Steve	D	38	✓	✓	✓	---	✓	CO	CO	✓	✓	✓	1	A
Berman, Marc	D	23	---	✓	✓	---	✓	Author	Author	✓	FM	0	2	A+
Boerner, Tasha	D	77	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	2	A
Bonta, Mia	D	18	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A-
Bryan, Isaac	D	55	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	0		A
Calderon, Lisa	D	56	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓		A-
Carrillo, Juan	D	39	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A-
Carrillo, Wendy	D	52	---	✓	✓	---	Author	✓	✓	✓	---	✓	3	A
Cervantes, Sabrina	D	58	PC	Author	PC	---	PC	PC	PC	---	---	---	1,3	A+
Chen, Phillip	R	59	---	✗	✗	---	✓	0	0	✓	✓	✗		D
Connolly, Damon	D	12	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	2	A
Dahle, Megan	R	1	---	✗	✗	---	✓	✗	✗	---	✓	✗		D-
Davies, Laurie	R	74	---	✗	✗	---	✓	✓	0	✓	✓	✗		D+
Dixon, Diane	R	72	---	✗	✗	---	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗		D
Essayli, Bill	R	63	---	✗	✗	---	0	✗	✗	---	✓	✗		F
Flora, Heath	R	9	---	✗	✗	---	✓	0	0	0	✓	0		D-
Fong, Mike	D	49	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A-
Fong, Vince	R	32	---	✗	✗	---	✓	✗	0	0	---	✗		F
Friedman, Laura	D	44	---	✓	FM	---	✓	✓	✓	---	✓	0		A+
Gabriel, Jesse	D	46	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	0		A
Gallagher, James	R	3	---	✗	✗	---	✓	✗	✗	0	✓	✗		D-
Garcia, Eduardo	D	36	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A-
Gipson, Mike	D	65	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A-
Grayson, Tim	D	15	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A-
Haney, Matt	D	17	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A-
Hart, Gregg	D	37	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A-
Holden, Chris	D	41	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	---	✓	✓		A-
Hoover, Josh	R	7	---	✗	✗	---	✓	0	0	0	✓	✗		D-
Irwin, Jacqui	D	42	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A-
Jackson, Corey	D	60	---	✓	✓	---	✓	CO	✓	✓	✓	✓		A
Jones-Sawyer, Reginald	D	57	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Author		B-
Kalra, Ash	D	25	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A-
Lackey, Tom	R	34	✗	✗	✗	---	✓	0	0	0	✓	0		F

✓: Voted "Yes"
 Author: Author
 CO: Coauthor
 PC: Principal Coauthor
 FM: Floor Manager
 c: Committed
✗: Voted "No"
o: Present but no vote (counts as Voted No)
 ---: Wasn't Present

Assemblymembers in bold scored as Clean Money Champions for their voting record and leadership.

****AB 3123 was opposed by CA Clean Money**, so "Yes" votes count negatively and "No" votes or abstentions count positively.

***Insider Score Points.** On priority Clean Money bills in yellow: 20 points for authors, 15 for principal coauthors and floor managers, and 10 for regular coauthors. Other bills have half that bonus for each. AB 3123 author had 10 point penalty.

¹Bonus for stand against SB 1243 as drafted in Assembly Elections when CA Clean Money Campaign still opposed it.

²Bonus for not voting for AB 2911, which was opposed by CA Clean Money Campaign, on the Assembly Floor.

³Bonus for speaking at Clean Money rally for *California Fair Elections Act* on August 12th.

Assemblymembers' Votes on Scored Items

Assemblymember	Party	District	SB 24: California Fair Elections Act	AB 270: California Fair Elections Act	SB 68 1: PRA Deadline Reform	SB 1422: Travel DISCLOSE Act	AB 2355: AI Political Ad Disclosures	AB 2839: Ban Deceptive Deepfakes	AB 2655: Platform Deepfakes	AB 3211: AI Watermarks	SB 1181: Reform Levine Act	AB 3123: Weaken Pay-to-Play Rules*	Insider Score**	Grade
Lee, Alex	D	24	PC	Author	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	0	2,3	A+
Low, Evan	D	26	CO	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A
Lowenthal, Josh	D	69	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A-
Maienschein, Brian	D	76	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	---	---	x	2	A
Mathis, Devon	R	33	---	x	x	---	✓	x	x	---	---	x		D-
McCarty, Kevin	D	6	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A-
McKinnor, Tina	D	61	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A-
Muratsuchi, Al	D	66	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	0	2	A
Nguyen, Stephanie	D	10	---	✓	✓	---	✓	0	✓	✓	✓	✓		B-
Ortega, Liz	D	20	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	---	---	---		A
Pacheco, Blanca	D	64	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A-
Papan, Diane	D	21	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A-
Patterson, Jim	R	8	---	x	x	---	✓	x	0	0	---	x		F
Patterson, Joe	R	5	---	x	x	---	✓	x	x	---	---	x		D-
Pellerin, Gail	D	28	✓	✓	✓	---	✓	Author	Author	✓	✓	✓		A+
Petrie-Norris, Cottie	D	73	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A-
Quirk-Silva, Sharon	D	67	CO	✓	✓	---	✓	CO	✓	✓	✓	✓		A
Ramos, James	D	45	---	0	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		C+
Rendon, Anthony	D	62	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A-
Reyes, Eloise	D	50	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A-
Rivas, Luz	D	43	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	---	---	✓		A-
Rivas, Robert	D	29	0	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	4,-5	B-
Rodriguez, Freddie	D	53	---	0	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		C+
Rubio, Blanca	D	48	✓	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A-
Sanchez, Kate	R	71	---	x	x	---	✓	x	x	0	✓	x		D-
Santiago, Miguel	D	54	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A-
Schiavo, Pilar	D	40	CO	CO	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	0		A+
Soria, Esmeralda	D	27	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	0	2	A
Ta, Tri	R	70	---	x	x	---	✓	0	0	0	✓	x		D-
Ting, Philip	D	19	---	✓	✓	---	✓	CO	✓	✓	✓	✓		A
Valencia, Avelino	D	68	---	✓	✓	---	✓	CO	✓	✓	✓	✓	2	A
Villapudua, Carlos	D	13	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A-
Waldron, Marie	R	75	---	x	x	---	✓	0	0	✓	✓	0		D+
Wallis, Greg	R	47	---	x	x	---	✓	0	0	0	✓	x		D-
Ward, Christopher	D	78	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A-
Weber, Akilah	D	79	---	✓	✓	---	✓	CO	✓	✓	✓	✓		A
Wicks, Buffy	D	14	0	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	Author	✓	✓	✓	4,-5	B+
Wilson, Lori	D	11	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	-6	B-
Wood, Jim	D	2	---	✓	✓	---	0	CO	✓	✓	✓	✓	2	A-
Zbur, Rick Chavez	D	51	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A-

✓: Voted "Yes"
 Author: Author
 CO: Coauthor
 PC: Principal Coauthor
 FM: Floor Manager
 c: Committed
x: Voted "No"
 0: Present but no vote (counts as Voted No)
 ---: Wasn't Present

Assemblymembers in bold scored as Clean Money Champions for their voting record and leadership.

***AB 3123 was opposed by CA Clean Money**, so "Yes" votes count negatively and "No" votes or abstentions count positively.

****Insider Score Points.** On priority Clean Money bills in yellow: 20 points for authors, 15 for principal coauthors and floor managers, and 10 for regular coauthors. Other bills have half that bonus for each. Insider Score penalties as described below.

¹Bonus for stand against SB 1243 as drafted in Assembly Elections when CA Clean Money Campaign still opposed it.

²Bonus for not voting for AB 2911, which was opposed by CA Clean Money Campaign, on the Assembly Floor.

³Bonus for speaking at Clean Money rally for *California Fair Elections Act* on August 12th.

⁴Bonus for getting AB 2655 through the Appropriations Committee to the Assembly floor despite major Big Tech opposition.

⁻⁵Penalty for holding SB 24 in Assembly Appropriations Committee, killing it for the session.

⁻⁶Penalty for authoring AB 2911 and not offering compromises to address the problems that caused California Clean Money Campaign and California Common Cause to have to oppose it (see page 7).

Senators' Votes on Scored Items

Senator	Party	District	SB 24: California Fair Elections Act	AB 270: California Fair Elections Act	SB 681: PRA Deadline Reform	SB 1422: Travel DISCLOSE Act	AB 2355: AI Political Ad Disclosures	AB 2839: Ban Deceptive Deepfakes	AB 2655: Platforms Deepfakes	AB 3211: AI Watermarks	SB 1181: Reform Levine Act	AB 3123: Weaken Pay-to-Play Rules*	Insider Score**	Grade
Allen, Ben	D	24	Author	PC	Author	Author	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	0	1,2	A+
Alvarado-Gil, Marie	R	4	o	---	✓	---	✓	x	x	✓	✓	x		C-
Archuleta, Bob	D	30	✓	---	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A-
Ashby, Angeliq	D	8	✓	---	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A-
Atkins, Toni	D	39	✓	---	✓	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓		A-
Becker, Josh	D	13	CO	CO	✓	---	✓	CO	✓	✓	✓	0	4,5	A+
Blakespear, Catherine	D	38	PC	PC	✓	✓	✓	FM	✓	---	✓	x	1,2,3,5	A+
Bradford, Steven	D	35	✓	---	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A-
Caballero, Anna	D	14	✓	o	✓	o	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	6,-7,-8	C
Cortese, Dave	D	15	✓	---	✓	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓		A-
Dahle, Brian	R	1	x	---	x	---	✓	x	x	---	✓	x		D-
Dodd, Bill	D	3	✓	---	✓	---	✓	CO	✓	✓	✓	✓		A
Durazo, Maria	D	26	✓	---	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	FM		B
Eggman, Susan	D	5	✓	---	✓	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓		A-
Glazer, Steve	D	7	✓	---	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	Author	x	✓	1	A+
Gonzalez, Lena	D	33	✓	---	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	---	✓	✓		A-
Grove, Shannon	R	12	x	---	x	---	✓	x	x	---	✓	x		D-
Hurtado, Melissa	D	16	✓	---	✓	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓		A-
Jones, Brian	R	40	x	---	x	---	✓	x	x	x	✓	x		D-
Laird, John	D	17	✓	---	✓	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	1	A
Limón, Monique	D	19	✓	---	✓	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	1	A
McGuire, Mike	D	2	✓	o	✓	o	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	6,-7,-8	C
Menjivar, Caroline	D	20	✓	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	1,2	A
Min, Dave	D	37	✓	---	✓	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓		A-
Newman, Josh	D	29	CO	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	2	A
Nguyen, Janet	R	36	x	x	x	---	✓	0	x	0	✓	x		F
Niello, Roger	R	6	x	---	x	---	✓	x	x	x	✓	x		D-
Ochoa Bogh, Rosilic	R	23	x	---	x	---	✓	0	x	0	✓	x		D-
Padilla, Steve	D	18	✓	---	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A-
Portantino, Anthony	D	25	✓	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	2	A
Roth, Richard	D	31	CO	---	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A
Rubio, Susan	D	22	✓	---	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	1	A
Seyarto, Kelly	R	32	x	---	x	---	✓	x	x	x	✓	x		D-
Skinner, Nancy	D	9	✓	---	✓	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓		A-
Smallwood-Cuevas, Lola	D	28	✓	---	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A-
Stern, Henry	D	27	PC	PC	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	0	1	A+
Umberg, Thomas	D	34	Author	PC	✓	✓	✓	FM	---	✓	✓	✓	2	A+
Wahab, Aisha	D	10	✓	---	✓	---	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	1	A
Wiener, Scott	D	11	CO	---	✓	---	✓	✓	---	✓	✓	✓		A
Wilk, Scott	R	21	x	---	x	---	FM	✓	x	x	✓	x		D

✓: Voted "Yes"
 Author: Author
 CO: Coauthor
 PC: Principal Coauthor
 FM: Floor Manager
 c: Committed
x: Voted "No"
o: Present but no vote (counts as Voted No)
 ---: Wasn't Present

Senators in bold scored as Clean Money Champions for their voting record and leadership.

***AB 3123 was opposed by CA Clean Money**, so "Yes" votes count negatively and "No" votes or abstentions count positively.

****Insider Score Points.** On priority Clean Money bills in yellow: 20 points for authors, 15 for principal coauthors and floor managers, and 10 for regular coauthors. Other bills have half that bonus for each. Insider Score penalties as described below.

¹Bonus for not voting for SB 1243 as drafted in first Senate Floor vote when CA Clean Money Campaign still opposed it.

²Bonus for not voting for AB 2911, which was opposed by CA Clean Money Campaign, in the Senate Elections Committee..

³Bonus for Senate Elections Chair Blakespear for leading in her committee against SB 1243 and AB 2911 as originally drafted.

⁴Bonus for Senator Becker for authoring SB 942, the *California AI Transparency Act*.

⁵Bonus for speaking at Clean Money rally for *California Fair Elections Act* on August 12th.

⁶Bonus for getting AB 2655 through the Senate Appropriations Committee to the Senate floor despite major Big Tech opposition.

⁻⁷Penalty for holding AB 270 in Senate Appropriations Committee, killing it for the session.

⁻⁸Penalty for holding SB 1422 in Senate Appropriations Committee, killing it for the session.

What is the California Clean Money Action Fund?

California Clean Money Action Fund is a nonpartisan nonprofit 501(c)(4) organization that is the political advocacy arm of *California Clean Money Campaign*. *California Clean Money Action Fund* has over 150,000 supporters from around the state who care deeply about the problems of money in politics. We've been fighting for legislation and ballot measures to limit the undue influence of Big Money in politics in California since 2006.

California Clean Money Action Fund is funded entirely by donations from individuals and foundations, and does not accept any funds from corporations or unions.

Board of Directors of California Clean Money Action Fund

Kevin Wolf, Chair

Co-Founder of Wind Harvest International (WHI)
Founder of Wolf and Associates

Trent Lange, PhD., President and Executive Director

Former CEO of Lange Fund Management

Wayne Williams, Secretary Treasurer

Photographer and political activist

The Honorable Sally Lieber

Member of the California State Board of Equalization
Former Assembly Speaker pro Tempore and State Assemblymember from the 22nd District
Former Mayor of Mountain View

David Schmidt

Owner and Tour Leader for California Nature Tours
Regional Volunteer Coordinator



California Clean Money Action Fund

12100 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 800

Los Angeles, CA 90025

Info@CACleanAction.org * (800) 566-3780 * Fax: (888) 375-5583

www.YesFairElections.org