

FACT SHEET
SB 1084 (LIU)
CALIFORNIA ECONOMIC SECURITY TASK FORCE
April 16, 2010

SUMMARY

This legislation would create a two-year, bipartisan Task Force to reduce poverty and increase economic security among Californians. The Task Force would include Legislators, state agency secretaries, members of the public, the business community, and key stakeholder group representatives.

- Provide a comprehensive set of politically viable and fiscally responsible policy recommendations to improve economic security in the state;
- Recommend and draft the necessary statutory changes to **increase economic security among Californians 50% by 2020**; and
- Issue interim and final reports to the Legislature and Administration documenting and presenting the results of their work.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The Federal Poverty Guidelines are \$10,830 for an individual and \$22,050 for a family of four. With the recession, high unemployment, and state budget crisis, California's poverty rate has grown to 12.8%. This is in spite of the fact that 89% of poor families in California have at least one household member who is working.

SB 1084 does not require the state to fund the Task Force or its operations. Rather, the Task Force will seek funding, technical assistance, and other resources from philanthropic and private donors as long as that support would not pose a conflict of interest or be inconsistent with the goals and objectives of the Task Force.

Poverty threatens the state's economic health by reducing the tax base, impeding the growth of an educated workforce, and increasing costs for health care, criminal justice, and social services programs.

Recent amendments to the bill further streamline the composition of the task force, ensure business community representation, and clarify that there will be no state General Fund cost to the bill.

The state dedicates significant resources to many programs aimed at reducing poverty and increasing economic security among residents. These programs are spread across many state and county agencies, limiting coordination among them. Further, an effort to improve the economic status of Californians cannot just be focused on government programs alone.

SPONSORS, SUPPORTERS, AND OPPOSITION

Sponsors, supporters, and opposition listed on opposite side of this page.

SOLUTION

SB 1084 establishes the California Economic Security Task Force. The two-year, bipartisan Task Force would:

- Create an inventory of state programs aimed at reducing poverty and increasing economic security;
- Analyze program effectiveness;
- Serve as the state clearinghouse for information on poverty programs;

SPONSORS

County Welfare Directors Association of California
Insight Center for Community Economic Development
Western Center on Law and Poverty
Women's Foundation of California

SUPPORT

1. Aging Services of California
2. Board of Supervisors – County of Contra Costa
3. Board of Supervisors – County of Yolo
4. Board of Supervisors – County of Sacramento
5. Board of Supervisors – County of San Luis Obispo
6. California Church IMPACT
7. California Partnership
8. California Small Business Association
9. California/Nevada Community Action Partnership
10. Catholic Charities of California United
11. Center on Policy Initiatives
12. Central California Area Social Service Consortium
13. Children's Defense Fund – California
14. City Council of San Luis Obispo
15. Community Coalition
16. Congress of California Seniors
17. County Welfare Directors Association of California
18. First 5 San Luis Obispo County
19. Food Bank Coalition of San Luis Obispo County
20. Fremont Family Resource Center
21. Grassroots Leadership Network
22. Insight Center for Community Economic Development
23. Jericho
24. Jewish Family Service
25. La Hermandad Hank Lacayo Youth & Family Center
26. Long Beach Community Action Partnership
27. Lutheran Office of Public Policy – California
28. MomsRising
29. National Senior Citizens Law Center
30. Parent Voices
31. San Luis Obispo County Department of Social Services
32. Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee
33. Senior Community Centers
34. Stanislaus County Community Services Agency
35. United Way of the Bay Area
36. Western Center on Law & Poverty
37. Wider Opportunities for Women
38. Women at Work
39. Women's Foundation of California
40. Women's Initiative – East Bay
41. Women's Initiative – North Bay
42. Women's Initiative – Silicon Valley

OPPOSITION

None known