

# California League of Conservation Voters EDUCATION FUND

**Candidate Briefing Digital Packet** 

Addressing the Climate Crisis

# **Introduction**

The climate crisis is here and now. Californians across the state are experiencing firsthand the consequences of climate inaction. In the past few months, we've seen record breaking heat waves, rolling blackouts, unusual thunderstorms and lightning, hazardous air quality, and a record-breaking wildfire season which has scorched a record breaking four million acres. All of this amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, the root cause of which is our extractive relationship with the planet and other species, habitat loss, and melting permafrost and glacial ice - all of which increase the risk of new infectious diseases and more pandemics. We must not accept this as the "new normal". Although California is ill-prepared for the next climate fueled emergency, we have time and we have the policy solutions. What we need now is the political will to implement those policies.

Voters understand the connection between these deadly events and the climate crisis, and they want solutions from candidates running for office that protect people and our environment. The climate crisis is not on hold because of the pandemic. Conversely, Californians' awareness of their environment has only increased, with quarantining and social distancing developing an even deeper appreciation for access to public lands, outdoor green spaces and parks, and clean air. We must work quickly to secure a healthy, clean and safe future not just for the next generations, but for every resident living in the state today.

We've put this digital packet together to serve as a resource for you in your run for office and provide you with tools on how to talk to voters about the climate crisis with polling from the Public Policy Institute of California, Pew Research Center and some polling of our own. This packet will help you to understand what issues matter most to voters as well as policy solutions you can champion. We're looking forward to working with you to implement meaningful change towards a healthy and safe future.

# **About CLCVEF**

Since 1972, the California League of Conservation Voters Education Fund (CLCVEF) has worked to protect and enhance the land, air, water, and health of all California communities.

CLCV Education Fund educates, engages and empowers California voters, advocates and elected officials to protect the state's natural resources and improve the health of its communities. Our strategy is four-fold:

- Increase the impact and effectiveness of the environmental community through Green California, an initiative that coordinates activities and policy priorities for over 100 conservation and environmental organizations;
- 2. Support decision-maker education on the importance of environmental health and conservation issues in their region;
- Connect voters with legislators to validate the importance of environmental health and conservation issues, especially in underserved communities and among nontraditional environmental allies; and
- 4. Conduct research on influential voter groups to better understand the pulse of California's electorate on environmental health and conservation issues.

We're excited to work with you on building an inclusive democracy and an equitable clean energy future where decisions about our economy, environment, and infrastructure are made by our communities.

# **CLCVEF Staff Contacts**

Consider us a resource and reach out to us when you have questions or need support.

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# **Clean Energy Economy**

**The issue:** Elimination of fossil fuel dependence for the state's energy needs is necessary to avoid the worst consequences of climate change. Unfortunately, California still derives over 67% of its state energy needs from non-renewable sources, with approximately 43% derived from natural gas. Continued reliance on fossil fuels for energy use is expensive, toxic to communities living near extraction and processing facilities, and will further exacerbate climate fueled disasters such as wildfires, extreme heat, and drought – costly and deadly consequences of inaction on climate change.

**Solutions:** Building a clean energy economy presents tremendous opportunity for economic growth, jobs, public health, and the environment. California must accelerate the transition to renewable sources of energy and away from our reliance on fossil fuels. This can be accomplished by banning further drilling or fracking permits and phasing out existing production, transforming our energy grid to rely on renewables, increasing energy storage capacity, and electrifying buildings and the transportation sector. Doing so enables the state to meet the energy needs of the future through 100% clean energy while supporting good paying, family-sustaining union jobs.

#### **Legislative History:**

AB 32 (Núñez and Pavley, 2006), the Global Warming Solutions Act, phased in a cap on greenhouse gas emissions to reduce them to 1990 levels by 2020, a 25% reduction.

SB 350 (De León, 2015), the Clean Energy and Pollution Reduction Act of 2015, mandated state utilities procure 50% of their energy from renewable sources by 2030. The bill was however stripped of a provision to cut California's petroleum usage by 50% over the next 15 years due to pressure from the oil industry, which spent many millions of dollars on a deceptive lobbying and media campaign, and, ultimately, the work of a group of oil industry-friendly Assembly Democrats.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> California Energy Commission, 2019 Total System Electric Generation. <a href="https://www.energy.ca.gov/data-reports/energy-almanac/california-electricity-data/2019-total-system-electric-generation">https://www.energy.ca.gov/data-reports/energy-almanac/california-electricity-data/2019-total-system-electric-generation</a>. Hydroelectricity generation accounts for 16.5%.

SB 32 (Pavley, 2016) continuing down the world-famous California climate solutions path blazed by AB 32, the 2006 Global Warming Solutions Act, SB 32 set a new target of reducing GHG emissions to 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030.

AB 197 (Eduardo Garcia, 2016), the Climate Equity and Transparency Act, was a companion bill to SB 32 which ensures that the benefits of climate pollution reduction reach the communities most directly affected and give the Legislature greater oversight responsibility when implementing these climate policies.

AB 617 (Cristina Garcia, 2017) increased requirements for stationary emitters, enhanced monitoring and reporting of toxic air pollutants, and increased penalty authority to hold polluters accountable for health and safety violations.

SB 100 (De León, 2017) established bold new standards to accelerate California's transition to 100% renewable energy by increasing the Renewables Portfolio Standard (RPS) requirement from 50% by 2030 to 60% and setting a target to achieve 100% clean energy by 2045.

#### Polling:

There is widespread support for a clean energy economy. With no additional details or arguments, voters' reaction is overwhelmingly positive to prioritizing a clean energy economy. Overall, 79% say they are supportive with only 21% opposed. In the extremes, 50% strongly support the concept while only 10% are strongly opposed—an overwhelming 5-to-1 ratio. There is also very high support across parties for candidates that refuse to take oil and gas money.



# Natural Resources, Public Lands, and Adaptation

The issue: In addition to reducing emissions and drawing down carbon, California must increase its resilience and adaptation, focusing on disadvantaged communities most impacted by the harmful impacts of climate change. We must prepare communities to withstand more severe drought and flooding seasons, shrinking snowpack, volatile precipitation patterns, higher temperatures and sea level rise which will continue to put pressure on public safety and critical natural resources like drinking water. Governor Newsom's recent executive order sets a goal for the State to conserve at least 30 percent of California's land and coastal waters by 2030 and establishes additional mandates and goals to protect and restore biodiversity. These actions by the Governor further nature based and science-based solutions to the climate crisis that utilize the potential of California's natural and working lands ability to sequester carbon and protect communities from climate change.

The need for sustainable land practices, restoration of native landscapes, conservation of public lands, investment in reforestation, urban greenspace and restoration of ecosystems that can act as buffers from the impacts of natural disasters will be critical to mitigating future damage to communities while making them healthier and more resilient. Due to climate change, years of drought, suppression of ecosystem's natural fire regimes and traditional indigenous burning practices, the scale and intensity of wildfires increase every year. President Trump has blamed poor forest management for California's fires despite the fact that the federal government owns about 58% of forest lands while the state only owns about 3%, the rest being owned by private individuals, companies, or native tribes. The devastating effects of wildfires will continue to impact the state at greater cost – both to structures and wildlands, as well as human lives.

**Solutions:** Expand and protect public lands and state parks that act as natural buffers and carbon sinks across the state. Promote land, forest, water and wetlands management practices that improve soil health, reduce fuels for fire, sequester carbon, protect water resources, and elevate indigenous communities and their practices in sustainable land management. Advance urban forestry and maintenance plans that reduce heat island and improve public health. Restore native ecosystems that act as buffers for resident communities, particularly in fire-prone areas and along coastlines susceptible to sea level rise, and promote biodiversity.

#### **Legislative History:**

<u>SB 50 (Allen, 2017)</u>: the Public Lands Protection Act: Directs the State Lands Commission to establish California's right of first refusal for any federal lands proposed for sale to other parties.

SB 5 (De León, 2017): (Passed as Prop 68 in 2018) - Authorized \$4 billion bond to fund California's local and state parks, coast, rivers, and waterways. This investment will address urgent park needs, help protect communities from the heat in the summer, improve access to clean drinking water, and provide critical habitats for California wildlife.

SB 307 (Roth, 2019) restored science-based decision-making to stop an environmentally disastrous project, the Cadiz Water Project, which sought to pump 16 billion gallons of water a year from a fragile desert aquifer in the Mojave desert at an alarming rate of overdraft which would have been devastating to both natural and cultural resources in California's largest national monument, Mojave Trails.

SB 200 (Monning, 2019) established the Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund which will help the one million Californians who have toxic drinking water access clean, affordable drinking water, prioritizing high-risk areas, and ensuring public engagement, transparency, and oversight.

AB 3030 (Kalra, 2020) - FAILED - Would have created a state policy goal to protect at least 30% of our lands, waters, and oceans by 2030 (30 by 30) to protect California's biodiversity, increase climate resilience, promote collaboration, increase carbon sequestration through natural methods, and enhance public access to nature.

**Polling:** Democrats, Republicans, and independents are unified in wanting elected officials that will protect our parks and public lands. Ninety-two (92) percent of all respondents indicate they are more likely to vote for a candidate who supports protecting public land and parks.



# Transportation & Land Use

**The issue:** Transportation is the largest contributor to greenhouse gas emissions in California, accounting for over 41% of emissions statewide. Despite gains in recent decades with stricter tailpipe standards, vehicles and trucks remain a stubborn obstacle to achieving carbon zero goals. Governor Newsom's <u>recent executive order</u> sets a goal for the state that all new passenger cars and trucks sold after 2035 be zero-emission and a goal for medium and heavyduty trucks to be zero emission after 2045 – a positive step, but only one of many actions needed to fully address reducing emissions from the transportation sector to zero.

Entrenched land use patterns and practices are one of the main barriers to cutting emissions and providing Californians with a healthier more sustainable environment. The long history of designing for vehicles, expanding urban sprawl, and prioritizing development on undeveloped land over infill development runs contrary to the direction needed to mitigate climate change and increase public health and wellness.

**Solutions:** Investing heavily in public transit and active transportation (i.e. pedestrian and bike infrastructure). Accelerate the transition to zero emission vehicles and expand charging infrastructure. Support sustainable, equitable and green development that maximizes energy and water efficiency, prioritizes infill development, utilizes green infrastructure such as cool pavement and green space that enhances safety and quality of life, and maximizes accessibility to public transit and mobility to jobs and essential services. Protect and strengthen the California Environmental Quality Act to support smart development and transportation infrastructure that protects public health and the environment.

#### **Legislative History**:

AB 2722 (Burke, 2016): Created the Transformative Climate Communities Program, administered by the Strategic Growth Council (SGC), to advance large-scale, comprehensive investments in California's most vulnerable communities to achieve multiple greenhouse gas reduction, public health, and economic benefits.

SB 2 (Atkins, 2017): Generates significant funding for building affordable infill homes in California near transit and jobs, as well as much-needed funding for planning.

<u>SB 676 (Bradford, 2019)</u>: Electric Vehicle Grid Integration. Requires the California Public Utilities Commission to establish electric vehicle grid integration strategies in order to better match the increased electricity demand for EV charging with excess renewable energy instead of natural gas.

#### Polling:

Californians overwhelmingly rate traffic as a problem and support funding to improve transportation infrastructure. The majority of Californians (62%) support requiring local governments to change zoning for new development from single-family to multi-family housing near transit and job centers.<sup>2</sup> And 76% favor encouraging local governments to change land use and transportation planning so that people could drive less.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>2</sup> Public Policy Institute of CA, 2019. https://www.ppic.org/press-release/opposed-to-trump-split-on-what-they-prefer-in-a-candidate/.



# **Toxics & Pollution**

**The issue:** California's tens of thousands of oil and gas wells, both active and decommissioned, pose major health hazards to the communities living near these sites. Other industrial processing facilities pose serious health threats to Californians. The vast majority of these facilities do not have safety buffer zones around them, and companies operating the sites rarely perform adequate clean-up of decommissioned wells, or shuttered facilities, leading to problems around soil and groundwater contamination, harmful air quality, and exposure to toxic chemicals.

As the most populous state California also faces severe challenges around waste management and recycling, especially in recent years. Waste pollution, particularly plastic, is a growing concern due to its harmful impact on landfill capacity, wildlife, waterways and the coastline. The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), which is responsible for enforcing the state's hazardous waste laws, permitting facilities handling toxic materials and cleaning up toxic sites, is vastly under resourced and in need of reform.

The impacts of these pollutants are heavily disproportionate, and the burden typically falls most heavily on lower-income communities of color who are often not provided the resources needed to adequately fix problems with toxic exposure. For example, in Richmond, CA, where most residents are low-income communities of color, the Chevron oil refinery causes children living in the city to suffer twice the rate of asthma as their neighbors in the rest of the county.<sup>3</sup> In Los Angeles, it is predominantly working-class Latinos living exposed to dangerous levels of lead, cadmium, arsenic and other toxins in and around their homes caused by the Exide lead acid battery recycling facility that poisoned the community for years before shutting down. The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), the agency responsible for protecting people from toxic exposure and the cleanup of toxic sites has been too underresourced to perform adequate and timely cleanups. People must also be protected from toxic ingredients found in consumer products linked to cancer, birth defects, reproductive harm and other major health concerns that can be found in food, water and other everyday products.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2019/oct/09/richmond-chevron-california-city-polluter-fossil-fuel

**Solutions:** As the world's fifth largest economy, CA must lead on standards protect consumers and residents from pollutants that undermine our health and harm ecosystems. Hold polluters accountable, clean up hazardous sites, reduce waste, and improve consumer protections from toxic substances to reduce environmental pollution and to protect communities from toxic exposure, especially those who are most disproportionately impacted by environmental hazards.

#### **Legislative History:**

AB 2153 (Cristina Garcia, 2016), the Lead-Acid Battery Recycling Act of 2016, reallocated a fee already imposed on all car batteries, providing an estimated \$30 million each year to continuously fund the cleanup of contamination caused by lead acid batteries throughout the state, including communities near the site of the former Exide battery plant in Los Angeles county.

SB 1383 (Lara, 2016), the Short-Lived Climate Pollutant Reduction Act, required the California Air Resources Board to develop a comprehensive strategy to achieve, from 2013 levels, of 40% reduction in methane, 40% reduction of hydrofluorocarbons (refrigerants) and a 50% reduction in anthropogenic (non-forest) black carbon. This includes a 50% reduction of landfill disposal of organic waste by 2020 and 75% by 2025 from the 2014 level.

<u>SB 258 (Lara, 2017)</u> required ingredient disclosure on both product labels and web sites for most kinds of cleaning products sold to consumers and businesses.

<u>AB 1057 (Limon, 2019)</u> requires the modernization of outdated oil and gas laws by prioritizing public health, safety, and emissions reductions and increases the amount of financial security oil companies must provide ensuring California taxpayers are not on the hook for the billions of dollars associated with cleanup of retired or abandoned oil and gas wells.

AB 345 (Muratsuchi, 2020) - **FAILED** – Would have required the state to establish a health and safety buffer zone between sensitive land uses, such as such as schools, day cares, residential homes, and hospitals, and oil and gas wells in order to protect communities from life threatening environmental health impacts.

<u>AB 1080 (Gonzalez)</u> and <u>SB 54 (Allen)</u>, 2020 **– FAILED -** Would have established a comprehensive plan to address plastic pollution and the waste crisis by setting targets to achieve a 75% reduction of single-use packaging and products by 2032. AB 1080 and SB 54 were identical measures.

#### Polling:

The majority of Californians express serious concern about air pollution and access to safe drinking water, with higher concern among Black, Latinx, and Asian-Americans communities.<sup>4</sup> Californians love their oceans and waterways and overwhelmingly support policies to keep them clean and free of pollution. Sixty-four percent believe plastics and marine debris is a "big problem" on our coasts and 61% rate the condition of CA oceans and beaches as "very important" to California's economy and quality of life for its residents.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Public Policy Institute of CA, Californians and the Environment, 2020. https://www.ppic.org/wpcontent/uploads/ppic-statewide-survey-californians-and-the-environment-july-2020.pdf



# **Agriculture**

**The issue:** Over 24 million acres of CA land is dedicated to farming and ranching in the state (nearly a quarter of California's total land mass), generating nearly 50 billion in sales every year. Unfortunately, despite its potential to be otherwise, agriculture is a net-emitter of greenhouse gases in the state, and has a fraught relationship with the state's limited water resources. Factory farms pose significant risk of contamination of water resources due to runoff while also being an extremely water intensive industry. The increased use of synthetic fertilizers and pesticides have harmful effects on farmworkers, water quality, and wildlife while also contributing to toxic nitrous oxide and carbon dioxide emissions.

The agricultural industry also stands to lose in the climate crisis. For California, a changing climate means more extreme weather events, extended periods of drought, less days of frost and more days of extreme heat. The types of products grown and raised in the state may change over time due to the climate no longer being viable for certain crops and animals. Climate change also brings new pests and pathogens that can devastate crops and livestock as well as spread new diseases. Farming is an essential industry that has the potential to be a solution to the climate crisis, but for far too long government has incentivized the exact types of industrial agriculture that are contributing to greenhouse gas emissions.

**Solutions:** Promote climate smart agricultural practices that improve air quality, improve soil health, sequester carbon, and reduce the need for toxic pesticides to transition the agricultural industry to become carbon neutral. Develop and enforce robust water management plans that conserve water, prioritize residents, and protect water quality.

Address the disparities in access to healthy food by supporting programs and funding for urban farms, community food pantries and kitchens, consumer education and programs that bring farmers markets, supermarkets, co-ops and healthy corner stores to areas that are underserved.

#### **Legislative History:**

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> California Agricultural Statistics Review, CA Dept. Of Food and Agriculture, 2018-2019. https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/statistics/PDFs/2018-2019AgReportnass.pdf.

<u>Sustainable Groundwater Management Act</u> (<u>AB 1739, Dickenson</u>, and <u>SB 1319</u> and <u>SB 1168</u>, Pavely, 2014): Developed a comprehensive framework for local and regional groundwater management, creating groundwater sustainability agencies (GSAs) with the intent to achieve sustainable groundwater management practices by 2042.

SB 1386 (Wolk, 2016): Formalizes state policy that protecting and managing natural and working lands—which store considerable amounts of carbon—is important to meeting California's climate-change goals, and directs all relevant state agencies to consider this policy when conducting their work.

AB 1066 (Gonzalez, 2016): Overtime protections for farmworkers - This bill removed the exemption in California's employment code which excluded farmworkers from basic overtime protections and justly provided the same overtime protections for farmworkers as other hourly employees in California.

#### Polling:

Efforts to encourage carbon sequestration (also called carbon capture) are one of the least controversial methods to address climate change and are favored by wide majorities across party lines. Nationally, 84% of Americans agree the government should provide tax credits for businesses to develop carbon capture practices.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Pew Research Center, "Two Thirds of Americans Think the Government Should Do More on Climate" June 23,2020. https://www.pewresearch.org/science/2020/06/23/two-thirds-of-americans-think-government-should-do-more-on-climate/



# **Workforce Transition**

The issue: Economic equality and justice must be part of our plan for a green future. While rapid decarbonization and transitioning to a clean energy economy is needed to stave off the worst impacts of climate change, doing so has the potential to disrupt communities and workers dependent upon fossil fuel extraction and use. California must continue to identify policies and programs that support the transition to a clean energy economy while creating new opportunities, high paying jobs, preparing our workforce and supporting workers whose jobs might be at risk. Aligning the state's goals of reducing greenhouse gases with economic equity in order to facilitate an equitable transition to a green economy that provides good-paying union jobs is essential.

**Solutions:** The Covid-19 pandemic and resulting economic fallout have resulted in millions of Californians losing employment, including jobs related to fossil fuels. Green jobs programs are unique in their integration of economy, equity and environment. A silver-lining in the economic fallout resulting from the pandemic is California's opportunity to design programs that put people back to work in jobs that advance the transition to clean energy, and provide better pay and more economic opportunity to workers. With a focus on supporting and transitioning fossil fuel industry workers, California can accelerate a just transition through green jobs training and apprenticeship programs, including zero-emissions vehicles manufacturing, decommissioning idle oil and gas wells, green energy infrastructure, transportation infrastructure, green building construction and upgrades, electrification retrofits and more.

#### Polling:

The majority of Californians believe that transitioning to a green economy will either create more jobs (39%) or will not change the number of jobs available to residents (30%). Less than a third believe actions to reduce global warming would decrease jobs in the state. Californians also support investing more heavily in communities most impacted by climate change, with 78% percent say it is important for some of the cap-and-trade funds to be spent on environmental improvements in lower-income communities.<sup>3</sup>



# **Building Democracy**

**The issue:** The majority of Californians support policies to mitigate climate change and advance a green economy, but too often voters feel disempowered and disengaged in the political process, and their voices are drowned out by more monied and influential corporate interests. It is critical that the state uphold and improve democratic functions that increase transparency and accountability to voters and prioritize citizens' voices over corporate interests. With the current public health crisis, it is also critical all Californians can access voting easily and safely.

**Solutions:** Expand access to voting through election reform policies and increase transparency and accountability in campaign finance laws in order to dramatically expand the electorate and ensure that our government is representative of the people of California. Increase opportunities for voters to obtain education and information on candidates and propositions on the ballot.

#### **Legislative History**:

AB 1461 (Gonzalez, 2015): The New Motor Voter Act – Act automatically registers to vote all eligible voters who obtain or update a driver's license or state ID.

SB 1107 (Allen, 2016): Lifting the Ban on Public Financing of Elections. Amended the Political Reform Act of 1974 to lift the state's ban on public financing of campaigns, allowing cities and the state to empower small donors with matching public funds and giving voters and local leaders the ability to counter the power of big money in politics.

AB 249 (Mullin, 2017) - Amended the Political Reform Act of 1974 to require the three largest funders of \$50,000 or more of ballot measure ads to be shown clearly and unambiguously so viewers see who's actually paying for them – including identifying the original donors instead of misleading names.

ACA 6 (McCarty, 2020) - **Now Prop 17**— Would amend the California Constitution to restore voting rights to people on parole in California, ensuring that everyone, regardless of their past involvement with the criminal legal system, can have their voices counted in our democracy.

ACA 4 (Mullin, 2020) - **Now Prop 18 -** Gives youth a voice in the democratic process and helps to instill a lifelong habit of voting by providing an opportunity for California's youth to have a

larger role in electing representatives. ACA 4 will allow 17-year-olds to vote in primary elections provided that they are 18 years of age by the time of the general election.

### Polling:

California voters report heightened concern about the voting process alongside heightened awareness and engagement with this year's election process. Nearly 94% of registered voters in the state indicate they plan to vote, and 74% indicate they plan to vote early. Deciding which way to vote is a larger barrier to access than interest, with voters citing challenges to understanding what propositions and candidates to vote for on the ballot.

<sup>7</sup> EMC Research Memo for CLCVEF re CA Voting in 2020. See memo in reference materials attached with this packet.

#### Social Media Toolkit

#ClimateChange is ravaging California. Our futures depend on electing leaders who believe in science and will take bold action to accelerate the transition off of climate-warming fossil fuels. That is why I'm running for office.

As wildfires ravage our state—burning millions of acres and forcing thousands of Californians from their homes—it is clear we are in the midst of a #ClimateEmergency. I'm running for office because CA deserves leaders who are prepared to take bold action.

Building a #CleanEnergy economy is key to creating jobs, protecting public health, & ensuring a hopeful future for all Californians. I'm running for office because we need bold action to accelerate the transition to a healthier, more prosperous economy.

The #ClimateCrisis is not on hold during this pandemic. Californians need leaders who will take a stand against corporate polluters calling for environmental rollbacks. That is why I am running for office.

Fossil fuel extraction and processing poses an unacceptable health risk to neighboring communities—which are disproportionately communities of color. I'm ready to take the legislative action necessary to transition to a 100% clean energy future.

Californians overwhelmingly support state action on #ClimateChange—but too often voters' voices are drowned out by corporate interests. I'm running for office because Californians deserve leaders who will stand up to #BigOil & protect communities' health.

Californians' health and safety is my top priority. I'm prepared to take the legislative action necessary to protect communities from polluting industries. As you cast your ballot this November, vote for #ClimateAction.

Transportation is California's largest source of climate pollution. @GavinNewsom's new 100% zero emission vehicle sales target is a step in the right direction—but there is more work to be done. I commit to furthering bold action.

I believe that California leaders have a responsibility to protect public lands from oil and gas development — to ensure that Californians can enjoy this precious resource today, and to preserve our beautiful lands for future generations to enjoy.

#### Recommended links to share with social:

- The science connecting wildfires to climate change. National Geographic.
- The frightening implications of California's first million-acre fire. Los Angeles Times.
- Recommendations to help California's economic recovery and to take action on climate. CalMatters.
- Check your mailbox: 21 million California ballots are on their way to voters. Los Angeles Times.
- More Trees, Parks May Mean Longer Lives for City Dwellers. U.S. News & World Report.
- The Plan for a 100 Percent Clean Future Must Include Saving Nature. Center for American Progress.