WHAT IS ENACT DAY 2018?
ENACT Day brings together community members--our neighbors, friends and family members--from all over our state together in Sacramento and advocate for policies that will improve the health and well-being of all who call California home. Recognizing how many factors impact our collective health and well-being, ENACT 2018 has moved beyond its traditional focus on nutrition and physical activity. Together, we will act on pressing issues shaping life in California--from food equity to criminal justice.

WHAT DO WE CARE ABOUT?

FOOD EQUITY

The Issue
More than 20 percent of Californians live in poverty and more than 10 percents do not have consistent access to enough food.¹ One in 10 California public school students attend charter schools. More than 340,000 of these students have families who are struggling to make ends meet -- and none of these students are guaranteed access to school meals.

Even in our state that produces fruit and vegetables for the world, low-income Californians need better access to healthy produce. We can do more to make nutritious food affordable for all.

Bills Addressing the Issue

AB 1871² (Bonta) will ensure that low-income students in charter schools -- like all other low-income public school students -- are guaranteed access to at least one nutritious, free or low-cost school meal each school day.

Both SB 900³ (Wiener and Arambula) and AB 2335⁴ (Ting) provide nutrition incentives for low-income Californians, to increase access to healthy fruits and vegetables. SB 900 enables the CalFresh EBT system to integrate supplemental nutrition benefits, and launches pilots allowing CalFresh customers to accrue and redeem supplemental nutrition benefits via EBT by purchasing California-grown fresh fruits and vegetables at participating food retailers. AB 2335 incentivizes corner stores and other small-scale stores with a limited selection of food products to purchase energy-efficient refrigeration and gain earlier access to the Nutrition Incentive Matching Grant Program.

For more information, contact the following bill sponsors:

SB 900 (Wiener and Arambula) – California Food Policy Advocates (Tracey Patterson, tracey@cfpa.net)
AB 1871 (Bonta) – California Food Policy Advocates (Tia Shimada, tia@cfpa.net)
AB 2335 (Ting) – Roots of Change (Michael Dimock, michael@rootsofchange.org)

¹ Data from 2016 California Health Interview Survey (CHIS). Available at http://ask.chis.ucla.edu/AskCHIS/tools/_layouts/AskChisTool/home.aspx#
The Issue

in 2012, Governor Brown signed AB 685, granting the basic human right to water and sanitation to all Californians. While an important step, it remains that some of California’s poorest communities do not have access to safe drinking water; more than 300 communities and one million Californians are exposed to unsafe drinking water from the taps in their homes, schools, and communities each year. Funding for capital infrastructure replacements helps ensure sustainable access to safe and affordable drinking water. However, water quality and access isn’t the only determination of consumption. The affordability and availability of water also impacts sugary drink consumption.

Bills Addressing the Issue

SB 623\(^5\) (Monning) implements California’s human right to water, by establishing a “Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund” for communities and individuals whose domestic wells exceed drinking water standards. Recognizing inequities in accessing safe drinking water, it prioritizes assistance to low-income families who are either drinking unsafe water or spending their hard-earned money to purchase replacement water.

SB 998 (Dodd) requires water systems to have a written policy on discontinuation of water service to certain types of residences for nonpayment available in English, Spanish, or any other language spoken by at least 10% of the people residing in its service area with provisions to prevent shutoffs for medically fragile households.

SB 1192 (Monning) makes a healthy beverage—water or milk—the default beverage for children’s meals sold in restaurants instead of sugary drinks.

For more information, contact the following bill sponsors:

SB 623 (Monning) – Community Water Center (Jonathan Nelson, jonathan.nelson@communitywatercenter.org)

SB 998 (Dodd) – Pacific Institute (Laura Feinstein, lfeinstein@pacinst.org)

SB 1192 (Monning) – American Heart Association (Kula Koenig, Kula.Koenig@heart.org)

HEALTH EQUITY, REGARDLESS OF IMMIGRATION STATUS

The Issue
Lack of access to healthcare affects all of us. 1 in 6 California children have at least one undocumented parent, and of the three million Californians who remain uninsured in California, nearly 6 in 10 are undocumented adults. Undocumented and uninsured Californians are sicker, die younger, and are one emergency away from financial ruin because they do not have access to comprehensive health coverage.

Bills Addressing the Issue
SB 974 (Lara) removes an eligibility barrier to full-scope Medi-Cal for all income-eligible undocumented adults, regardless of immigration status.

For more information, feel free to contact the following bill sponsors:
SB 974 (Lara) – California Immigrant Policy Center (Betzabel Estudillo, bestudillo@caimigrant.org)

HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS

The Issue
Safe, decent, affordable and accessible housing is a basic human right. There are underlying structural, economic and social issues that contribute to the lack of decent affordable housing, the creation of disadvantaged neighborhoods, and homelessness. People experiencing homelessness are often vulnerable and should not be criminalized or otherwise deprived of their rights, due to their lack of stable housing.

Bills Addressing the Issue
SB 1010 (Beall) would create a pilot to provide supportive housing to parolees who are either experiencing homelessness or were homeless when incarcerated, and have no place to go upon discharge. Under the pilot, CDCR would work to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with one to two counties, to provide supportive housing to homeless parolees—which combines the provision of a stable, affordable place to live, with with services that promote housing stability.

AB 2161 (Chiu) would direct the Department of Housing and Community Development to create a state homeless integrated data warehouse, in coordination with the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council, to develop a composite portrayal of the homeless population in the state and the services provided to this population or to those at risk of becoming homeless.

For more information, contact the following bill sponsors:
SB 1010 (Beall) – Housing California (Christopher Martin, CMartin@housingca.org)
AB 2161 (Chiu) – Housing California (Tyrone Buckley, TBuckley@housingca.org)
The Issue
The criminal justice system places a disproportionate burden on low-income communities and communities of color. One way to address the disproportionality is to end the practice of basing people’s freedom after arrest on their wealth—not flight or public safety risk. This denies people equal access to justice and does not make us any safer; keeping people in jail pretrial has damaging health consequences.

Bills Addressing the Issue
SB 10 (Hertzberg) ends the harmful practice of money bail that punishes people who haven’t been convicted of a crime simply because they do not have enough money to buy their freedom. This bill revises the pretrial release procedure by requiring that a risk assessment be conducted upon booking to determine if bail is required.

For more information, contact the following bill sponsors:
SB 10 (Hertzberg) – American Civil Liberties Union (Daisy Vieyra, dvieyra@acluca.org)

WHO ARE WE?
We are a coalition of organizations committed to advancing a healthy, safe and equitable California. We are leaders in public health, food policy and nutrition, and through our work, we hope to create a more fair, just and prosperous California—a California that works for all.