



INTRODUCTION

Each regulatory agency of California government hears from those trades or industries it respectively affects. Usually organized through various trade associations, professional lobbyists regularly formulate positions, draft legislation and proposed rules, and provide information as part of an ongoing agency relationship. These groups usually focus on the particular agency overseeing a major aspect of their business.

In addition, a number of organizations which do not represent a profit-stake interest in regulatory policies appear before these agencies and the legislature. These organizations advocate more diffuse interests—the taxpayer, small business owner, consumer, environment, future. The following is a list of some of the major public interest organizations which represent these important interests before state regulatory agencies and the legislature, with a brief description of the issues they address.

AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA

424 Pendleton Way
Oakland, CA 94621
(510) 638-LUNG (5864)

The American Lung Association of California is dedicated to the prevention and control of lung disease. The Association works on issues pertaining to public health, environmental toxics, air pollution, smoking and tobacco control, and the health care system. The Association advocates positions before the California legislature and regulatory agencies, including the Air Resources Board, Cal-OSHA, the Department of Health Services, and others.

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY

555 Audubon Place
Sacramento, CA 95825
(916) 481-5332

The National Audubon Society has two priorities: the conservation of wildlife, including endangered species, and the conservation and sound use of water. The society works to establish and protect

wildlife refuges, wilderness areas, and wild and scenic rivers. To achieve these goals, the society supports measures for the abatement and prevention of all forms of environmental pollution.

CALIFORNIA COMMON CAUSE

10951 W. Pico Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90064
(310) 475-8285

California Common Cause (CCC) is a 55,000-member public interest lobbying organization dedicated to obtaining a more open, accountable, and responsive government and decreasing the power of special interests to affect the legislature. CCC focuses its efforts on campaign finance reform and governmental ethics issues.

CALIFORNIANS AGAINST WASTE

926 J St., Suite 606
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 443-5422

In 1977, Californians Against Waste (CAW) was formed to advocate for a recycling bill in the legislature which would require a minimum refundable deposit of five cents on beer and soft drink containers. After being repeatedly thwarted legislatively by well-financed industry opponents, CAW sponsored and organized a coalition for a statewide citizen initiative which appeared on the ballot in 1982 as Proposition 11. That measure failed after can and bottle manufacturers and their allies raised and spent \$6 million to defeat it. CAW then worked for the 1986 passage of the "bottle bill" (AB 2020-Margolin), which for the first time established redemption values for glass, aluminum, and two-liter plastic beverage containers. California's bottle bill has been labeled as the most cost-effective bottle bill in the nation by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Presently, CAW is sponsoring legislation to expand the bottle bill's provisions to other types of containers.

CALIFORNIA PUBLIC INTEREST RESEARCH GROUP

11965 Venice Blvd., Suite 408
Los Angeles, CA 90066
(310) 397-3404

CalPIRG is a statewide nonprofit organization founded by students from

several California universities. CalPIRG maintains chapters at six University of California campuses, campaign offices in five cities, and a legislative office in Sacramento. CalPIRG has approximately 100,000 student and community members statewide.

Recently, CalPIRG won a major Clean Water Act lawsuit against the Shell Oil refinery in Martinez; successfully lobbied to protect the California Zero-Emission Vehicle standards; and helped secure the passage of laws protecting California's coastline from new offshore oil drilling rigs, preventing price gouging during a state of emergency, and ending gender-based price discrimination.

CAMPAIGN CALIFORNIA

1187 Stanley Avenue
Chico, CA 95928
(916) 342-2717

Founded in 1977 by now-Senator Tom Hayden as the Campaign for Economic Democracy, Campaign California (CC) has over 25,000 members and helped lead the successful 1989 Sacramento campaign to close the Rancho Seco nuclear power plant. CC has played a significant role in statewide initiatives, including Propositions 65, 99, and 128.

CC supports efforts to frame workable progressive solutions to problems in the areas of child care, education, environment, transportation, personal safety, insurance, and health care. It targets the private entrepreneur as a source of economic growth, jobs, and innovation.

CENTER FOR LAW IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST

5750 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 561
Los Angeles, CA 90036
(310) 470-3000

The Center for Law in the Public Interest (CLIP), founded in 1971, provides public interest law services. CLIP's major focus is litigation in the areas of environmental protection, civil rights and liberties, corporate reform, affordable housing, communications, and land use planning. Due to economic considerations, in 1988 CLIP began using outside counsel instead of employing a full-time legal staff. Some legal services for the Center are provided by the law firm of Hall & Associates. CLIP sponsors law student extern and fellowship programs, and periodically publishes a newsletter called *Public Interest Briefs*.



CENTER FOR PUBLIC INTEREST LAW

*University of San Diego
School of Law
5998 Alcalá Park
San Diego, CA 92110
(619) 260-4806*

Created in 1980, the Center for Public Interest Law (CPIL) is an academic center of research, teaching, learning, and advocacy in regulatory and public interest law based at the University of San Diego School of Law.

Each year, approximately 45 students participate as CPIL interns for academic credit. Students in the Center attend a yearlong course entitled *California Administrative Law and Practice*, in which they study the substantive law governing agencies which regulate business, trades, professions, and the environment. As part of their coursework, CPIL interns are assigned to monitor California agencies by attending meetings and hearings and tracking legislation and litigation pertaining to those agencies. Throughout the year, the interns contribute written reports of the activities of their assigned agencies; these reports are published in the *California Regulatory Law Reporter*, the only legal journal of its kind in the nation. After a year of agency monitoring, students may choose clinic projects involving active participation in rulemaking, litigation, legislation, or writing.

In addition to its academic program, CPIL has an advocacy component. CPIL's professional staff consists of public interest litigators, research attorneys, and legislative advocates; they regularly represent the public interest in a variety of fora, including the courts, the legislature, and administrative agencies.

The goal of the Center for Public Interest Law is to make the regulatory functions of state government more efficient, visible, and accountable by serving as a public monitor of state administrative agencies, and by representing otherwise unrepresented interests in government and legal proceedings.

The Center, which is headquartered in San Diego and maintains a branch office in Sacramento, is funded by the University, foundation and government grants, and gifts—including the Price Chair in Public Interest Law endowment donated by philanthropists Sol and Helen Price in November 1990.

CONSUMER ACTION

*116 New Montgomery St., Ste. 223
San Francisco, CA 94105
(415) 777-9635 (Consumer Hotline)
(415) 777-9648 (Business Office)*

Consumer Action (CA) is a nonprofit consumer advocacy and education organization formed in 1971. Most of its 1,500 members reside in northern California but significant growth has taken place in southern California in recent years; CA is based in San Francisco but maintains a branch office in downtown Los Angeles. CA is a multi-issue group which since 1984 has focused its work in the banking and telecommunications industries.

CA has filed petitions with and appeared before the California Public Utilities Commission in the field of telephone rates. Statewide pricing surveys are published periodically comparing the rates of equal-access long distance companies and the prices of services offered by financial institutions. CA publishes a *Consumer Services Guide* which lists agencies and groups offering services to consumers and assisting with complaints. A free consumer complaint/information switchboard is provided by CA, and the group publishes a regular newsletter which includes its pricing surveys.

CONSUMERS FIRST

*P.O. Box 2346
Orinda, CA 94653
(510) 253-1937*

Consumers First is a consumer education and advocacy organization that represents taxpayers who are residential and small business consumers. The organization provides the nexus between consumers and commerce by working with government and business to bring fairness to the competitive marketplace. Consumers First provides technical advice to regulators, elected officials, government agencies, public interest organizations, and businesses, and periodically authors public policy commentaries for publication.

Consumers First advocates the interests of individuals and organizations, including homeowners, renters, consumer activists, community leaders, senior citizens, disability groups, small business owners, and entrepreneurs. This broad-based, grass-roots association is active in providing information and participating in the governmental process. Consumers First conducts education and training forums on important regulatory, legislative, and public policy issues that have a broad impact on society.

Consumers First represents consumers in such matters as electrical, natural gas, and telecommunications utilities regulation; banking and financial services; cable television; the regulation of business, trades, and professions; Information Age technologies; privacy and credit reporting; public policy information; and government efficiency and reform.

CONSUMERS UNION

*1535 Mission Street
San Francisco, CA 94103
(415) 431-6747*

Consumers Union (CU), one of the largest consumer organizations in the nation, is a consumer advocate on a wide range of issues in both federal and state forums. CU publishes *Consumer Reports*, with a national circulation of approximately five million. Historically, CU's West Coast Regional Office has been very active in California consumer issues ranging from the proper implementation of Proposition 103 to banking regulation reform.

ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE FUND

*Rockridge Market Hall
5655 College Ave., Suite 304
Oakland, CA 94618
(510) 658-8008*

The Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) was formed in 1967 by a group of Long Island scientists and naturalists concerned that DDT was poisoning the environment. EDF was a major force behind the 1972 federal ban of DDT.

Staffed by scientists, economists, and attorneys, EDF is now a national organization working to protect the environment and the public health. Through extensive scientific and economic research, EDF identifies and develops solutions to environmental problems. EDF currently concentrates on four areas of concern: energy, toxics, water resources, and wildlife.

ENVIRONMENTAL LAW FOUNDATION

*1736 Franklin Street, 8th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612
(510) 208-4555*

The Environmental Law Foundation (ELF) was incorporated on Earth Day 1991 to improve environmental quality for those most at risk from environmental threats, particularly the inner city and communities of color, children, and work-



PUBLIC INTEREST ORGANIZATIONS

ers. ELF is not a law firm, but provides legal advice and assistance, as well as access to information on and strategies for enforcement of environmental, toxics, and community right-to-know laws. ELF complements the approach of environmental law firms by enforcing existing environmental regulations, providing a bridge of direct service to people in need, and serving as a critical link between at-risk communities and the legal, scientific, financial, and other resources they need to effectively address environmental problems.

FIRST AMENDMENT PROJECT

1736 Franklin Street, 8th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612
(510) 208-7744

The First Amendment Project (FAP) is a nonprofit public interest law firm established in 1991 to protect, defend, and further Californians' rights to participate in and know about government activities and speak and write freely about public issues. FAP provides legal representation to individuals, groups, journalists, and others who need help in enforcing the federal Freedom of Information Act, the California Public Records Act, and the state's open meeting laws.

FAP also defends people and groups who are sued for exercising their first amendment rights to participate in government and speak out on public issues. FAP has successfully used California's anti-SLAPP law (Strategic Litigation Against Public Participation), securing court orders dismissing lawsuits brought to punish people for exercising their rights and awarding the victims all of their costs and attorneys' fees.

FUND FOR ANIMALS

Fort Mason Center, Bldg. C
San Francisco, CA 94123
(415) 474-4020

Founded in 1967, the Fund for Animals (FFA) works for wildlife conservation and to combat cruelty to animals locally, nationally, and internationally. Its motto is "We speak for those who can't." The Fund's activities include legislation, litigation, education, and confrontation. FFA has divisions in eighteen states, 200,000 members nationwide, and a \$2 million annual budget. It also runs a 4.5-acre Wildlife Rehabilitation Center in Ramona, California. The Fund's New York founder, Cleveland

Amory, continues to serve without salary as president and chief executive officer.

LEAGUE FOR COASTAL PROTECTION

22350 Carbon Mesa Road
Malibu, CA 90265
(310) 456-6605

Created in 1981, the League for Coastal Protection (LCP) is a coalition of citizen organizations and individuals working to preserve California's coast. It is the only statewide organization concentrating all its efforts on protecting the coast. The League maintains a constant presence before the California Coastal Commission.

NATURAL RESOURCES DEFENSE COUNCIL

71 Stevenson St., Suite 1825
San Francisco, CA 94105
(415) 777-0220

The Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) is a nonprofit environmental advocacy organization with a nationwide membership in excess of 170,000 individuals, more than 30,000 of whom reside in California. NRDC's stated goal is a world in which human beings live in harmony with the environment, a harmony NRDC believes is predicated on two ethical imperatives: human health (including pure air and water and safe food for every human being) and a belief in the sanctity of the natural environment.

Since 1972, NRDC's western office in San Francisco has been active on a wide range of California, western, and national environmental issues. NRDC focuses on six program areas: air and energy; water and coastal; land; international and nuclear; public health; and urban. On behalf of the underrepresented interests of environmental integrity, NRDC attorneys and scientists appear before numerous state and federal forums.

NRDC has been a leading force in seeking to combat global warming through enhanced energy conservation and renewable energy alternatives to new fossil fuel power plants and offshore oil drilling. NRDC has actively pursued resource-conserving land use policies in California's coastal counties and federally-managed lands. Notable recent achievements include leadership of coalitions that have developed broadly-supported federal legislative initiatives on pesticide regulation and efficiency standards for household ap-

pliances. Forest, desert, and prairie protection and cooperation with environmental groups in the former Soviet Union are taking on growing significance within the organization.

NRDC's unique commitment to urban ecological issues and "environmental justice" is reflected in the growing activities of its branch office in downtown Los Angeles, which opened in October 1989. NRDC headquarters is located in New York City, with an additional branch office in Washington, D.C.

NETWORK PROJECT/ PROPOSITION 103 ENFORCEMENT PROJECT

10951 W. Pico Blvd., Third Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90064
(310) 475-0883

Founded in 1985, the Network Project is a nonprofit, citizen-supported consumer research and protection organization. Utilizing the tools of legal advocacy, policy research and development, and public education campaigns, the Network Project has developed a broad consumer agenda, including an ongoing joint investigation with consumer advocate Ralph Nader of billing errors involving medical, utility, credit card, and other industries.

Network Project's Proposition 103 Enforcement Project has assumed responsibility for ensuring the implementation of Proposition 103, the insurance reform initiative approved by the voters in 1988. Since the passage of Proposition 103, over six million Californians have received a total of \$775 million in rate rollbacks; further, the initiative has blocked between \$4-\$6 billion in rate increases. Judicial and regulatory challenges by insurance companies to many of the initiative's key provisions have delayed its full implementation. The Proposition 103 Enforcement Project was created in July 1993 to represent the public's interest in Proposition 103 and other insurance-related matters before legal and legislative tribunals.

PACIFIC LEGAL FOUNDATION

2151 River Plaza Dr., Suite 305
Sacramento, CA 95833
(916) 641-8888

The Pacific Legal Foundation (PLF) is a public interest law firm which sup-



ports free enterprise, private property rights, and individual marketplace freedom. PLF has been particularly active and influential in defending the rights of owners whose ability to benefit economically from their property has been circumscribed by government regulations. The firm has also fiercely defended Proposition 13's limits on taxation.

PLANNING AND CONSERVATION LEAGUE

926 J Street, Suite 612
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 444-8726

The Planning and Conservation League (PCL) is a nonprofit statewide alliance of thousands of individual citizens and more than 150 conservation organizations devoted to promoting sound environmental legislation in California. Located in Sacramento, PCL actively lobbies for legislation to preserve California's coast; prevent dumping of toxic wastes into air, water, and land; preserve wild and scenic rivers; and protect open space and agricultural land.

PCL is the oldest statewide environmental lobbying group. Founded in 1965 by a group of citizens concerned about uncontrolled development throughout the state, PCL has fought for over two decades to develop a body of resource-protective environmental law which will keep the state beautiful and productive.

Since its creation, PCL has been active in almost every major environmental effort in California and a participant in the passage of numerous pieces of significant legislation, including the California Environmental Quality Act, the Coastal Protection Law, the act creating the Bay Conservation and Development Commission, the Lake Tahoe Compact Act, the Energy Commission Act, the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, and laws which enhance the quality of urban environments.

PCL is supported by individual and group membership fees, with a current membership of more than 9,500 individuals. PCL established its nonprofit, tax-deductible PCL Foundation in 1971, which is supported by donations from individuals, other foundations, and government grants. The Foundation specializes in research and public education programs on a variety of natural resource issues. It has undertaken several major projects, including studies of the California coast, water quality, river recreation industries, energy pricing, land use, the state's environmen-

tal budget, and implementation of environmental policies.

PUBLIC ADVOCATES

1535 Mission St.
San Francisco, CA 94103
(415) 431-7430

Public Advocates, Inc. (PA) is a nonprofit public interest law firm whose mission is to fight the persistent, underlying causes and effects of poverty and discrimination against low-income, minority, and immigrant residents of California. PA has concentrated its efforts in the areas of education, employment, health, homelessness, insurance, public utilities, and banking. Since its founding in 1971, PA has filed over 100 class action suits and represented more than 70 organizations, including the NAACP, the League of United Latin American Citizens, the Filipino-American Political Association, Chinese for Affirmative Action, the National Organization for Women, and the World Institute of Disability. In addition, PA has helped to form major and now independent organizations such as the Health Access Coalition, Latino Issues Forum, Urban Strategies Council, and HomeBase.

PUBLIC INTEREST CLEARINGHOUSE

200 McAllister St.
San Francisco, CA 94102-4978
(415) 255-1714

The Public Interest Clearinghouse (PIC) is a resource and coordination center for public interest law and statewide legal services. PIC is partially sponsored by six California law schools: Hastings College of the Law, University of Santa Clara School of Law, Golden Gate School of Law, UC Davis School of Law, UCLA School of Law, and the University of San Francisco School of Law. The Clearinghouse is also funded by the California Legal Services Trust Fund and a subgrant from the Legal Services Corporation.

Through the Legal Services Coordination Project, PIC serves as a general resource center for all legal services programs in California and other states in the Pacific region. Services include coordinating project directors' meetings, publishing a monthly *Legal Services Bulletin* and calendar of events, and offering technical assistance and information on funding sources and regulations.

PIC's Public Interest Computer Project established and maintains Legal Aid/Net,

a national information and communications computer network for legal service providers and other public interest poverty law practitioners containing information on health, public benefits, and housing issues.

PIC's biweekly *Public Interest Employment Report* lists positions for a variety of national, state, and local public interest organizations, including openings for attorneys, administrators, paralegals, and fundraisers. There is no charge for listing jobs in the employment report.

PIC's Public Interest Law Program, currently operative at seven participating northern California law schools, is designed to help public interest law students survive law school "with their goals and ambitions intact." The program prepares students for careers in public service through a combination of coursework, individual academic and career counseling, and practical experience. The program also publishes a monthly newsletter, *The Public Interest Advocate*. PIC anticipates expanding this program to southern California law schools in the near future.

SIERRA CLUB

Legislative Office
923 Twelfth St., Suite 200
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 557-1100

The Sierra Club has 145,000 members in California and over 550,000 members nationally, and works actively on environmental and natural resource protection issues. The Club is directed by volunteer activists.

In California, Sierra Club has thirteen chapters, some with staffed offices. Sierra Club maintains a legislative office in Sacramento to lobby on numerous state issues, including toxics and pesticides, air and water quality, parks, forests, land use, energy, coastal protection, water development, and wildlife. In addition to lobbying the state legislature, the Club monitors the activities of several state agencies, including the Air Resources Board, Coastal Commission, Department of Health Services, and Department of Parks and Recreation. The Sacramento office publishes a quarterly newsletter, *Green Slate*, which is supplemented by a monthly legislative bulletin. The Sierra Club Committee on Political Education is the Club's political action committee, which endorses candidates and organizes volunteer support in election campaigns.

The Sierra Club maintains national headquarters in San Francisco, and oper-



ates a legislative office in Washington, D.C., and regional offices in several cities including Oakland and Los Angeles.

TURN (TOWARD UTILITY RATE NORMALIZATION)

*625 Polk St., Suite 403
San Francisco, CA 94102
(415) 929-8876*

Toward Utility Rate Normalization (TURN) is a nonprofit advocacy group with approximately 30,000 members throughout California. About one-third of its membership resides in southern California. TURN represents its members, comprised of residential and small business consumers, in electrical, natural gas, and telephone utility rate and policy proceedings before the Public Utilities Commission, the courts, legislative bodies, and federal regulatory and administrative agencies. TURN has intervened in over 200 proceedings since its founding in 1973. To complement its core mission of legal advocacy, TURN educates the public and the media on a variety of utility issues.

UCAN (UTILITY CONSUMERS' ACTION NETWORK)

*1717 Kettner Blvd., Suite 105
San Diego, CA 92101
(619) 696-6966*

Utility Consumers' Action Network (UCAN) is a nonprofit advocacy group supported by 41,000 residential and small business ratepayers. UCAN focuses upon intervention before the California Public Utilities Commission (PUC) and the Department of Insurance on issues which directly impact San Diego ratepayers. UCAN also assists individual ratepayers with complaints against regulated companies and offers its informational resources to San Diegans.

UCAN began its advocacy in 1984. Since then, it has intervened in San Diego Gas & Electric Company's (SDG&E) 1985, 1988, 1989, and 1993 General Rate Cases; 1984, 1985, 1986, and 1989 Energy Cost Adjustment Clause proceedings; the San Onofre cost overrun hearings; SDG&E's holding company application; and the PUC proceeding which resulted in the Commission's unanimous rejection of the proposed takeover of SDG&E by Southern California Edison Company.

During 1991, UCAN's Board of Directors decided the advocacy organization should expand beyond its traditional focus on gas, electric, and telephone utility issues, and represent the public interest in insurance and cable television matters.

UNION OF CONCERNED SCIENTISTS

Transportation Program
*2397 Shattuck Ave., Suite 203
Berkeley, CA 94704
(510) 843-1872*

UCS is an independent nonprofit organization of scientists and other citizens concerned about the impact of advanced technology on society. UCS programs focus on national and state energy, environmental, sustainable agriculture, and transportation policy, as well as national security policy and nuclear power safety. UCS was founded in 1969 and currently has a membership of 100,000 (20% in California), a staff of 40, and offices in Cambridge, Massachusetts, Washington D.C., and Berkeley.

The Berkeley office is home to UCS' innovative transportation program. The staff expertise and outreach focuses on promoting environmentally-sound transportation policies at the state and local governmental level. To pursue these goals, the transportation program works to educate the public about transportation issues and their impact on energy resources, the economy, the environment, and public health; develop innovative, market-based strategies to reduce vehicle use; and provide technical assistance to state planners and policymakers trying to forge new approaches to addressing transportation sector problems. UCS hopes to create successful, precedent-setting policies in California that can be used as a model in other states and countries. The transportation program works regularly with the state Air Resources Board, California Energy Commission, and the legislature. The California office has active volunteer and internship programs and encourages qualified applicants to contact the office.

