

Quarterly Community Issues

2022: April - June

KQNC 6:04 am– 6:06 pm Weekdays

4-1-22: GENDER PAY GAP

The study analyzed median annual earnings for fulltime year-round workers under the age of 30 in 250 metropolitan areas. In Sacramento, women under 30 make 101 percent what men of the same age make. There are 21 other metros where that's happening. And it reflects 16 percent of working women that age.

4-4-22: SACRAMENTO SCHOOL STRIKE

Last night, the district announced it reached tentative agreements with the two striking unions, the Sacramento City Teachers Association and SEIU Local 1021. Those agreements provide increased salaries and benefits for workers, among other things. The two unions represent over 4,000 of the district's employees, including teachers, nurses, bus drivers and instructional aides.

4-7-22: CRACKING DOWN ON HOMELESS CAMPSITES IN SACRAMENTO

The ordinance would first require the city to approve thousands of homeless shelter beds and safe ground camping spaces. If built, the city could offer those spaces to unhoused people camping on public property. If they refuse, the city could remove them.

4-11-22: CORPORATE BOARD DIVERSITY

California has taken the lead in getting companies with a headquarters here to diversify their leadership. Two state laws to bring this about are facing legal challenges.

4-11-22: PGE WILDFIRE SETTLEMENT

P-G-and-E has agreed to settlements with half-a-dozen Northern California counties over the 2019 Kincade Fire and last year's massive Dixie Fire. Under the Dixie Fire settlement, PG&E must create a streamlined system for paying survivors who lost their homes and other property. Claims could be paid in as little as 75 days—much faster than payments made to victims of past PG&E-caused fires. By agreeing to the settlements, the company will not face criminal charges.

4-21-22: STATE CLOSES TROUBLED COVID TESTING LAB

California will close its main COVID-19 testing lab next month. The facility in Los Angeles County has faced scrutiny since it opened. Governor Gavin Newsom's administration hired global health care company PerkinElmer to run the lab...awarding a no-bid contract worth up to \$1.7 billion. In a letter late last month...obtained by CapRadio...the state told the company it would terminate the contract within 45 days. The Newsom administration declined an interview request. In a statement, it said antigen tests and commercial labs offer more flexibility.

5-4-22: ABORTION ACCESS IN CA

California state lawmakers are doubling down on efforts to expand abortion access. The pledge comes after a leaked document showed the U-S Supreme Court is poised to overturn Roe versus Wade.

6-15-22: JUNETEENTH IN SACRAMENTO

Sunday is Juneteenth. It's the celebration of the emancipation of enslaved Black people in the United States. Across Sacramento, many organizations are hosting events in its honor.

6-20-22: CA FUMBLES ON FOREST MANAGEMENT

A monthslong investigation from The California Newsroom...a public media collaboration...found Cal Fire has fumbled key responsibilities when it comes to managing forests and preventing catastrophic fires.

6-30-22: STATE BUDGET FINALIZED

It's the largest budget ever passed in California – or any other state, says Democrat Nancy Skinner, who chairs the Senate Budget committee. SKINNER: Thanks to California voters, who gave California a progressive tax system that ensures the wealthiest among us pay their fair share. This historic budget truly puts California's wealth to work for all.

It includes a double-digit increase in K-12 spending per pupil and a 47-billion-dollar infrastructure package... that covers everything from high-speed rail to student housing. But Republicans, like Assembly Budget Vice chair Vince Fong say the massive surpluses of the last two years haven't solved the state's major problems.