

CATEGORY	QUESTIONS	ANSWERS
Important Resources	All the important resources can be found on the Lobby Days page	Lobby Days 2025 - Advocate for Bills to Advance AAUW Values - AAUW California
	Lobby Days Training webinar	aauw-ca.org/documents/2025/04/lobby-days-2025-training-presentation.pdf/
	Lobby Days Training recording	https://www.aauw-ca.org/lobby-days-2025-advocate-for-bills-to-advance-aauw-values/
	See the latest on the meetings requested and scheduled for April 8th (Sacramento)	Lobby Days Sacramento Meetings - April 8, 2025 - Google Sheets
	See the latest on the meetings requested and scheduled for April 9th (Zoom)	Lobby Days Zoom Meetings - April 9, 2025 - Google Sheets
	For urgent issues that you encounter during the event:	On April 8th call or text Amy Hom 650-823-9661. On April 9th call or text Ginny Hatfield 818-970-4577
Meeting - Timing and Logistics	Do we have a total of 15-20 minutes to discuss all 3 bills? Why are the meetings so short?	Yes, meetings are usually 15-20 minutes total. The offices are very busy and unable to grant more time. Team Leader should start by asking the Member/Staff "how much time do we have with you today?" If you get 20 minutes, limit the time on the intro to 2-3 minutes, and bills to ~ 4 minutes each, so that there is time for questions and comments from the member or staffer.
	What happens in the Zoom meetings on 4/8 and 4/9 at 9am?	The meetings on April 8th and 9th at 9am are Launch Meetings. They are meant to generate enthusiasm for the day ahead, and answer last minute questions. We will be addressed on April 8th by Fiona Ma, State Treasurer. Our guest on April 9th is TBD.
	Parking tips	Please see info provided here: https://www.aauw-ca.org/documents/2025/03/lobby-days-2025-info-for-team-sacramento.pdf/
	How to blur background on Zoom	See this article on how to blur background https://support.zoom.com/hc/en/article?id=zm_kb&sysparm_article=KB0061066
	How to change background on Zoom	See this article on how change background https://support.zoom.com/hc/en/article?id=zm_kb&sysparm_article=KB0060387
	AAUW zoom background	AAUW Background: https://www.aauw-ca.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/aauw-blue-background.png
	what is the aauw lobbyist name?	Kathy Van Osten, MVM Strategy Group
	What if my legislator's office isn't scheduled for us?	Another team is likely scheduled to meet them on the 8th (in person) or the 9th (Zoom). Remember that there are 49 teams, and many of the teams share the same assemblymembers and senators.

	Can I cold call my legislator's office? Can we do a drop-by and take our chance?	Please do not cold call your legislator's office in Sacramento on April 8th as this will cause chaos. Another one of the AAUW teams is scheduled to meet them to advance our bills. Remember that you can always schedule a meeting with your legislator in their district office outside of the Lobby Day event. We encourage you to do this and establish a relationship with them.
	What materials can I leave behind?	AAUW California PPP informational cards, Fact Sheets for our priority bills, Talking Points (especially if you ran out of time and didn't cover a bill)
	What if I haven't heard from my team leader?	Please feel free to reach out to them. You can find their contact info on the scheduling sheets.
	are there any hearings to drop in on?	Senate Judiciary will be holding a bill hearing on April 8th at 1:30pm.
Questions about the Legislators	How can we find out if the legislator has worked with AAUW prior? Does CA have records?	See the previous bill trackers from 2023 and 2024: Bill Tracking Report 2023 Bill Tracking Report 2024
	How many bills that AAUW supported last year were passed and what were the numbers if we want to look them up.	See the legislative scorecard in the November 2024 issue of Public Policy News: https://www.aauw-ca.org/documents/2024/10/public-policy-november-2024.pdf/
	Does AAUW CA have a rating of legislators on where they stand on our issues?	We do not have a rating of the legislators. Perhaps a possible project to put together for the future.
	If we are meeting only with Assemblymembers, does it make sense to talk about Senate bills?	Yes. Once a Senate bill passes out of the Senate, it will go to the Assembly where it will be heard in committee and then the full house.
	Can AAUW CA provide names of branches for each legislator we've visiting? for those of us meeting with members we don't live in the district, it would be a good tie to show other branches in their district	We unfortunately do not have a list correlating branches to assembly and senate districts. The map on this page shows the branch locations around the state: https://www.aauw-ca.org/join-us-2/
	List of other bills we are supporting this year	These are the bills on our 2025 Legislative Agenda: Bill Tracking Report 2025
Questions and Discussion re SB 418	Please suggest a response to "This will scare health insurers away from our state?"	We do not anticipate that insurers will leave California over this. California is 20% of the nation's economy. The percentage of trans people is very low and the financial impact to the insurers will be minimal.
	Exactly what does SB 418 change from the status quo? Is this just a What If Trump does something overreaching?	From the SB 418 Fact Sheet: "Given the unfortunately high possibility that the Trump administration will rollback the final rule associated with Section 1557 of the ACA, SB 418 takes a proactive step to codify these protections in state law to ensure health care access for all in California." (Section 1557 ensures basic protections from discrimination in any health program that receives government funding.) Note that 26 states have passed bans on gender-affirming care, and the attack on healthcare is constantly shifting. https://www.hrc.org/resources/attacks-on-gender-affirming-care-by-state-map
	Does this make it compulsory for all CA state health plans/providers to cover procedures associated with gender affirming care?	Plans and providers will not be allowed to deny services or deny an individual from being a plan participant based on their gender.

	Have any other states have passed legislation comparable to SB 418 or AB 579?	More research needed on this question.
	SB418 cites studies and health authorities. Is there any specific cites we can use?	Bill talking points are now updated to include citations: https://www.aauw-ca.org/documents/2025/03/lobby-days-2025-talking-points-sb-418.pdf/
	There are two other anti-trans bills I just got an alert on—AB89, AB 844. Should we also know about these in case they come up in discussion.	These two bills were blocked in committee on April 1st: https://www.sacbee.com/news/politics-government/capitol-alert/article303047194.html
Questions and Discussion re SB 771	Is SB 771 only targeting Meta?	No, this bill addresses any social media platform.
	Does California law already do what this bill is asking?	California law prohibits aiding or abetting hate crimes. SB 771 clarifies the potential applicability of the law if a platform algorithm or AI ensures that targeted populations are reliably hit by content uploaded to intimate and harass them.
	What do you mean "acting in tandem"?	If an individual puts something on their wall that is hate speech, that's theirs. But if algorithms or AI take that hate speech to target specific people who are mentioned in the hate speech, then the algorithm or AI is working in tandem with someone who is looking to threaten or intimidate others.
Questions and Discussion re AB 579	Does our opposition to 579 mean that we think a parent can lose parental rights if they don't support child's gender identity?	No, not at all. We think it should be left up to a judge on a case-by-case basis. AB 579 would prevent a case from even going before a judge. It says that the parent's refusal to acknowledge can't be taken to court as a basis for custody or removal decisions.
	Who is Yaeli?	Yaeli is Yaeli Martinez who died by suicide after being removed from her home due to gender identity disputes.
	Important insight from member of the audience	Comment re: Yaeli's law, her story is a tragedy but it didn't happen because she was trans - it happened because our society is violently transphobic. If her parents had supported her from the start and helped protect her from societal transphobia, this would've been less likely to happen. As a trans person with depression, the battle never truly ends, but having your parents on your side can make a world of a difference. Ultimately my support system enabled me to save myself, and I'm happy to be here
	Important insight from member of the audience	A possible talking point about AB579 (Yaeli's Law) is that if we support children in using their preferred pronouns and their access to gender affirming care, then we remove the "power struggle." Shame and hiding in the shadows limits your ability to truly understand yourself and makes it very hard to make rational, safe, and informed decisions.
	Information regarding supporters	Please note that 28 "Parental Rights" group support AB 579, including 4 Moms4Liberty chapters.
	I myself am nonbinary, which makes me wonder on what I should do if the legislative meeting sours - it's difficult for me to "agree to disagree" when it comes to things that affect me and my community directly. Are my personal connections to these bills a liability or a boon, then?	Leg offices, members and staff, understand that you are there as an advocate. The vast majority will be professional and will not behave in an inappropriate manner. Personal stories and examples are very impactful, and they are an effective way to advance your point of view in a way that is more likely to change someone's mind or at least mitigate conflict.

General	How can all of this be used to educate our members back in our branches?	<p>Please feel free to share the posted Lobby Day materials including bill talking points and fact sheets with your branches.</p> <p>Please share with your branches our April issue of Public Policy News which will have an article about our Legislative Agenda including these three bills. The newsletter will also include an article about why AAUW is standing up for the transgender community, and why it is critical to do so in this moment. The newsletter will be posted by April 4th here: https://www.aauw-ca.org/public-policy-committee-policy-news/</p>
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