



Let's Get Ready to Rumble! Lobby Week 2022

April 7, 2022



Presentation materials:

- Download the presentation from the AAUW California website home page.
- The meeting recording, a summary Q&A document and example documents will be posted following the meeting.

Questions:

- Use the Q&A function to pose a question. We'll stop periodically to answer general questions.
- Chat has been disabled.

The screenshot shows a Zoom 'Question and Answer' window. At the top, there are two tabs: 'All questions (1)' and 'My questions (1)'. A red dashed arrow points from the text 'Check here for answers to all questions.' to the 'All questions (1)' tab. Another red dashed arrow points from the text 'Check here for answers to your questions' to the 'My questions (1)' tab. Below the tabs, a question is visible: 'Where can I download the presentation?' asked by 'You' at 09:45 AM. Below this, there is a 'Collapse all (1)' link and a response from 'AAUW California' at 09:46 AM. At the bottom of the window, there is a text input field with the placeholder 'Type your question here...'. A red dashed arrow points from the text 'Type your question here.' to this input field. In the bottom left corner, there are two circular buttons: 'Chat' and 'Q&A'. The 'Q&A' button is circled in red. A message on the left side of the window states 'Chat has been disabled. Use the Q&A function'. In the bottom right corner, there is a red 'Leave' button.



Presenters



Kathi Harper
Public Policy
Co-Chair



Sue Miller
Public Policy
Co-Chair



Kathleen Van Osten
MVM Strategy Group



What We Will Cover

- The purpose and scope of Lobby Week
- How to conduct your meetings
- How to talk about our bills
- The logistics



Purpose and Scope of Lobby Week

Great opportunity to:

- Acquaint yourself with your legislators.
- Acquaint your legislators with AAUW, AAUW California, and your branch.
- Advocate on behalf of AAUW California's top 3 priority bills for 2022-23.



Kick-Off Zoom Meeting, April 11

9:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

- Introduction of AAUW California Advocate Kathy Van Osten (KVO) from MVM Strategy Group
- Address from State Controller Betty Yee:
California's Economy - Where do We Go From Here?
- Question and answer session with KVO



The Meetings

- Meetings will last about 20 minutes.
- Team Leader makes introductions, presents overview of AAUW, AAUW California, and leader's branch if in district.
- Each member gives overview of member's branch if in district
- Members explain their assigned bill, and ask for a commitment of support.
- Team leader thanks the legislator or staff, gets contact info for follow-up.



Proposed Script For Lobby Day

Team Leader

Good [morning][afternoon]. On behalf of AAUW California, we want to thank you so much for giving us the opportunity to meet with you today. My name is [], I am from the [] branch of AAUW, these are my colleagues [introduce each or let them introduce themselves, with branch name].

I'd like to take a few minutes to tell you about AAUW, the American Association of University Women, but may I ask first if you are familiar with our organization? (Give them a chance to tell you what they might already know – don't waste time on info they already have, just fill in whatever is missing) – highlights:

- Nationwide organization started in 1881
- Headquartered in Wash D.C., affiliates in all 50 states, including CA
- We are known as AAUW California. We were organized in 1921 and incorporated in 1956, we currently have 119 branches and over 10,000 members.
- Our mission is to advance equity for women and girls through education, research and advocacy, but our values include ensuring equity for a diverse society



Proposed Script For Lobby Day Team Leader (continued)

[If you are all from the same branch and your branch is in district]: Our branch is in your/the member's district, and [if appropriate] we appreciate the support you/the member has shown for issues we care about. I'd like to tell you a little about the things our branch is doing for your/the members community [highlights of current/recent events].

[If none of your members are from the legislator's district]: I will tell you, none of us are/our branch is from your/the member's district, we were asked to meet with you/your office because it is an important district and unfortunately none of our members from your district was available. If I may, I'd like to tell you just in general the kinds of activities branches are engaged in throughout California [some ideas: Tech Trek, scholarships, community education, Get out the Vote]

Can I answer any questions for you about AAUW?

Every year, AAUW California sets a legislative agenda of about 30 bills that we are supporting. We have chosen our top 3 that we'd like to talk to you about today, and at this point I will turn it over to my colleagues, each will address one of our bills.



Proposed Script For Lobby Day Team Member

I'd like to also thank you for giving us the opportunity to talk to you today. [If you are in district and the Team Leader is not from your district, you should introduce your branch and talk about some of the activities your branch has engaged in that supports the district.]

I'd like to talk to you today about [Bill No.] [Refer to talking points.]

Do you have any questions for me about [Bill No.]? [If you can answer, do so. If you can't answer]: I'm not sure about that, but I will definitely have someone from our state public policy team get back to you with an answer right away.

May I indicate that AAUW will have your support for [Bill No.]? [If they say "no" don't argue, just ask them if they would mind sharing their concerns, then write them down.]

[Each member will repeat in turn.]



Proposed Script For Lobby Day

Team Leader - Closing

Thank you again so much for your time and attention.

[If you are meeting with the legislator]: Can you give me the name and contact for who we should send follow-up responses and material to?

[If you are meeting with a staffer]: Can you spell your name and give me your contact info so we can send responses and material to you?



Some Do's ... Before the Meeting



- Do some homework - know where the member stands on AAUW values.
- Make sure you understand the bills. Review the talking points and ask if you're not sure.
- Most of you will be on Zoom. Make sure your equipment is working and there are no distractions.



During the Meeting

RELAX! They're just people!



- Let them know if you are a constituent.
- Let your pride in AAUW shine through.
- Stick to your allotted time.
- It's okay to read from the talking points.
- Give them time to ask questions and listen carefully to responses.
- It's okay to say "I don't know". Tell them you'll find out and that someone will circle back. **WRITE IT DOWN!**
- Ask if we can count on the member's support.



Some Don'ts



- If you have been a campaign contributor
DO NOT MENTION IT!
- Don't be late. Check in a few minutes ahead of time to ensure no computer glitches.
- If the legislator is about to speak or is speaking, do not interrupt.
- Don't ramble.
- Don't eat or drink. It's only 20 minutes!



Some “Don’t Forgets”



- Designate someone to take a picture of the screen.
- Be flexible.
 - We may have last-minute changes beyond our control.
 - Your member or staffer may be late.
 - Your member or staffer may have to cut the meeting short.
 - There may be technical glitches.
 - Be courteous no matter what.
- Get contact info.
- Make note of questions/concerns/responses.



Questions



Talking Points for Assembly Bill 92

Child Care Family Fees

Author: Assembly Member Eloise Gomez Reyes
Co-Sponsored by AAUW California

The Problem:

- Access to child care is a challenge for low-income parents in California. The average two-parent family spends around 20% of its annual income on child care. Experts say that spending more than 7% places economic stress on working families.
- The pandemic caused many childcare providers to go out of business, and for many parents has heightened the need for affordable child care for families and communities of color who are a significant part of California's essential workforce.
- State and federally funded programs help families, but they must still pay fees. This can make subsidized care unaffordable and jeopardize employment or education. The current fee structure penalizes families, since the fees increase as income rises.



Talking Points for Assembly Bill 92 (Continued)

The Proposed Solution:

- AB 92, introduced in 2021, is a two-year bill.
- Last year, we were successful in getting funding in the State Budget to waive required family fees until June 30, 2022. This immediately put money directly into the pockets of families struggling to get by during the pandemic.
- In March 2022, Assembly Member Reyes asked the Assembly Budget Committee to allocate \$187 million in the 2022-23 Budget to extend the waiving of family fees through September 30, 2024. In addition she asked for this year's state budget agreement to adhere to the provisions outlined in AB 92.
- By increasing the affordability of child care for working families, this bill will benefit the economic recovery of the state by helping parents remain in the workforce and achieve economic stability.

Ask your Senator or Assembly Member to vote “aye” on AB 92!



Talking Points for Assembly Bill 1666

California Abortion Access Bill

Author: Assembly Member Bauer-Kahan Co-Sponsored by AAUW CA

The Problem:

- States across the country are taking unprecedented steps to penalize and bar access to abortion. The Supreme Court has done little to strike down these unconstitutional laws.
- Legislation enacted in Texas that severely restricts access to abortion is forcing women to travel out of state to seek care – that is if they can afford it. This law relies on private citizens to enforce the abortion ban by filing civil lawsuits against abortion providers and those who assist people in obtaining abortions.
- Laws like this are expected to motivate women to seek abortions in other states



Talking Points for Assembly Bill 1666 (Continued)

California's Proposed Solution - AB 1666

- Abortion access is a legal right in California, codified by statute and the State Constitution. As people in hostile anti-abortion states travel out of state to seek abortion care, more patients will turn to California for care – making abortion providers and those who assist those patients at risk for civil liability.
- AB 1666 seeks to protect Californians from civil actions based on anti-abortion laws in other states.
- Under AB 1666 California will not apply a law from another state that severely restricts access to abortion, such as the Texas law, to a case heard in California court, and not enforce or satisfy a civil judgment received from another state.
- This bill will protect patients and providers from civil actions and financial retaliation by prohibiting seizure of their assets.
- It would declare another state's law to be contrary to the public policy of California. It would prohibit the application of that law to a case or controversy heard in a California court and also prohibit the enforcement or satisfaction of a civil judgment received under that law

Ask your Senator or Assembly Member to vote “aye” on AB 1666!



Talking Points for Assembly Bill 1968

Uniform Guidance for Sexual Assault Survivors

Author: Assembly Member Kelly Seyarto

The Problem:

- California's public higher education systems currently utilize trainings for students, faculty, and staff to promote environments where sexual assault and violence are prevented in addition to bringing attention to resources to respond to these traumatic events.
- However, the lack of uniformity on how information is presented on CSU and UC websites can make it a challenge for survivors to find crucial information. The author contends that some higher education websites host information that is virtually inaccessible on a mobile device or "just plain confusing to look at."
- While there are many sections of the California Education Code that direct specified information be posted on an institution's internet website, there is generally a lack of specificity as to the manner in which that information is displayed.



Talking Points for Assembly Bill 1968 (Continued)

The Proposed Solution:

- AB 1968 requires the Trustees of the CSU and requests the Regents of the UC to develop standards for the content and presentation of information regarding the steps a student who is a victim of a sexual assault might immediately take following the sexual assault, including the options, timing parameters, and potential outcomes relating to each step.
- Presentation standards must include steps for reporting the sexual assault to others who may provide emotional or other valuable help, with contact information; receiving proper medical attention following the sexual assault; and collecting and preserving evidence related to the sexual assault
- Also requires the development of a model internet website template incorporating the content standards developed
- Author has agreed to include “Title IX offices” in the list of collaborators working to develop the standards and model specified in this legislation.

Ask your Senator or Assembly Member to vote “aye” on AB 1968!



Questions



Logistics - Before the Meeting

- Team Leader should call or email designated contact from Rep's office
 - Introduce yourself
 - Let them know you will be providing a Zoom link the day before your scheduled appointment
- All members should make sure they are familiar with Zoom and that equipment is in working order

Questions about one of your legislators, or any of your meetings?

Contact Kathy Van Osten 916-605-9293.



Logistics - After the Meeting

- Team leaders will have documents for specific feedback for each meeting. Please be sure to note any questions or requests for specific information that we will need to follow-up on, so that we can respond and get that information to the legislator.
- Please forward these documents to:

Kathi Harper and Sue Miller at
publicpolicy@aauw-ca.org



Questions