



## Senate Bill 1213 (Atkins): Every Woman Counts

### Summary:

Senate Bill 1213 (Atkins) expands eligibility for the Every Woman Counts (EWC) program and the Breast and Cervical Treatment Program (BCCTP) by increasing the federal poverty level (FPL) from 200% to 300%.

### Need for bill:

- EWC provides free breast and cervical cancer screening and diagnostic services to California's underserved populations whose income is at or below 200% FPL, do not have health insurance, or have limited insurance and are not receiving services through Medi-Cal.
- BCCTP provides cancer treatment benefits to eligible low-income California residents diagnosed with breast and/or cervical cancer.
- Recent expansion of full-scope Medi-Cal to low-income individuals previously deemed ineligible due to their immigration status, many of those previously eligible for EWC and BCCTP will now be covered by Medi-Cal and no longer need the program.
- However, those who are uninsured or underinsured with income above 200%FPL may still be unable to access affordable insurance.
- Individuals without satisfactory immigration status are not eligible for insurance through the exchange or subsidies to reduce premiums.
- Currently 33 states cover individuals with incomes up to 250%FPL and five states cover individuals with incomes up to 300%FPL or more.

### What will SB 1213 do?

Expanding eligibility for EWC and BCCTP from 200% to 300%FPL will ensure that these individuals will have access to critical cancer screening and treatment. By expanding EWC eligibility coverage to 300%FPL we will have the opportunity to further close the gap on cancer care to the Californians who do not have access to affordable healthcare options.

**ACS CAN Position:** Co-Sponsor. For more information regarding this position, please contact ACS CAN California's Director of State Legislation, Autumn Ogden at 916.206.9686 or [autumn.ogden@cancer.org](mailto:autumn.ogden@cancer.org)



## Senate Bill 1172 (Grove): Cancer Research Tax Donation Checkoffs

### Summary:

Senate Bill 1172 (Grove) extends the tax donation checkoffs for the California Breast Cancer Research Fund (CBCRF) and the California Cancer Research Fund (CCRF) until January 1, 2032.

### Need for bill:

- The CBCRF and CCRF are two of the 20 tax checkoff funds that appear on the state tax return.
- The research grants supported with these funds are selected through rigorous and peer-reviewed procedures, and the research findings are widely disseminated on the program websites.
- The CBCRF supports new approaches to diagnose, treat and prevent breast cancer, including investigating the causes of breast cancer and improving support networks for underserved Californians.
- The CCRF supports research relating to the causes, detection, and prevention of cancer, including expanding community-based education on cancer and providing prevention and awareness activities for communities that are heavily afflicted by the disease.
- These two voluntary contribution funds are an effective avenue for making an impact on cancer research. Over the past six years, the CBCRF raised over \$2.7 million and the CCRF raised over \$2.9 million. Approximately 25,000 individuals donate annually to each fund.

### What will SB 1172 do?

SB 1172 will ensure that Californians can continue to make voluntary contributions to those funds through their state tax returns to support important research relating to the prevention, causes, detection, treatment and ultimate curing of cancer.

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## Senate Bill 1230 (Rubio): Illegal Tobacco Seizure

### Summary:

Senate Bill 1230 (Rubio) strengthens enforcement California's flavored tobacco ban by granting the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration (CDTFA) the authority to seize illegal tobacco products.

### Need for bill:

- Current law bans the retail sale of flavored tobacco products. It also authorizes enforcing agencies to assess civil penalties against retailers that sell flavored tobacco products or sell any tobacco product to people under 21 years old.
- According to the 2023 National Youth Tobacco Survey, approximately 2.8 million high school students and middle school students used a tobacco product in the past year, and nearly 90 percent of youth electronic cigarette users used flavored products.
- Despite California's ban on the sale of flavored tobacco products, there has been a surge in illegal tobacco products being imported into the United States., including over \$18 million of unauthorized electronic cigarettes seized at the Los Angeles International Airport in 2023.
- More work is needed to end the availability of flavored tobacco products in California.

### What will SB 1230 do?

SB 1230 would authorize employees of the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration to seize and destroy flavored tobacco products discovered during inspections of locations where tobacco products are sold or stored. SB 1230 would also increase the civil penalties for retailers who sell illegal tobacco products and tobacco products to people under 21 years old.

**ACS CAN Position:** Co-Sponsor. For more information regarding this position, please contact ACS CAN California's Director of State Legislation, Autumn Ogden at 916.206.9686 or [autumn.ogden@cancer.org](mailto:autumn.ogden@cancer.org)



## **Assembly Bill 3218 (Wood): Flavored Tobacco Sale Prohibition: Enforcement**

### **Summary:**

Assembly Bill 3218 (Wood) reduces the availability and continued use of flavored tobacco products by establishing a publicly available list of all tobacco products that are permissibly unflavored and allowed to be sold in California.

### **Need for bill:**

- Current law prohibits the sale of flavored tobacco products at the retail level; however, flavored tobacco products continue to be sold in California and remain popular with youth.
- A 2023 study by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found that among middle school and high school students who currently use e-cigarettes, nearly 9 in 10 use flavored e-cigarettes.
- In order to discontinue the sale of these products, more needs to be done to clarify which products shall be defined as contraband and subject to seizure and fines.
- Authorizing the Attorney General to penalize distributors that sell products not appearing on the list as well as manufacturers that falsely certify to the Attorney General that their products are unflavored will ensure that we are holding them accountable.

### **What will AB 3218 do?**

AB 3218 is the next step to address continued access to these products and will provide the Attorney General's Office, as well as other state and local enforcers, with the tools and support needed to hold accountable those responsible for illegal sales and help sellers looking to meet their obligations come into full compliance with the law.

**ACS CAN Position:** Co-Sponsor. For more information regarding this position, please contact ACS CAN California's Director of State Legislation, Autumn Ogden at 916.206.9686 or [autumn.ogden@cancer.org](mailto:autumn.ogden@cancer.org)