



2026 Capitol Summit Priorities

A bold declaration that the Jewish Californians stand up for ourselves and for all people

Jewish California strives to represent our own community's core safety concerns and provide critical social services to all those in need. This slate of 30+ bills and budget requests meaningfully address the Jewish community's core issues and values.

The following bills and budget requests will be our focus issues at Capitol Summit, May 11-12.

See the full list at: jewishcal.org/2026-legislation

COUNTERING ANTISEMITISM & HATE

After last year's progress addressing antisemitism in K-12 schools, we will focus this year on protecting our nonprofits and houses of worship, and on education and data collection to better understand the diversity of the Jewish community.



AB 1836 (Gabriel) // Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP) – \$100 million

Budget: Funds security infrastructure for synagogues and nonprofits at risk of hate-motivated violence.

Legislative: Expands grant eligibility to cover high-risk community events held off-site.



AB 2664 (Bauer-Kahan) SAFE WORSHIP ZONE ACT

Establishes a 100-foot bubble zone around entrances to houses of worship, protecting safe access to religious institutions while respecting constitutional protest rights.



SB 1387 (Stern) JEWISH ETHNICITY

Ensures Jewish identity is captured in ethnicity data collection systems – in addition to existing religious categorization – to improve understanding of our diverse community and accuracy in hate-crime, healthcare, and other reporting.

SUPPORTING PROGRAMS AT RISK FROM H.R. 1

H.R. 1, the One Big Beautiful Bill, includes provisions that threaten critical social services that our member organizations provide to vulnerable populations. These items encourage the state to respond to immigration, healthcare, and hunger benefits that are now at risk.



Protect Refugee Support – \$20 million

Federal policy changes have largely halted new refugee arrivals and cut funding for those who arrived in the last five years. This request funds services for recent refugees who have been cut off early from support.



AB 2161 (Bonta) PROTECT MEDI-CAL COVERAGE

H.R. 1 requires Medi-Cal recipients to file paperwork proving they meet new work requirements – but many eligible people will lose coverage simply because they don't know about or can't navigate the bureaucracy. This bill directs California to verify compliance using public data on people's behalf, so that low-income individuals don't lose healthcare due to paperwork burdens.



AB 2299 (Calderon) PROTECT FOOD BENEFITS

H.R. 1 imposes rigid work-requirement time limits that will cut off food assistance for nearly 660,000 Californians – including previously exempted veterans, foster youth, people experiencing homelessness, and youth and older adult caregivers. This bill creates a state-funded food benefit program to replace what the federal government is taking away.