

Policy Brief

May 2018

AB 3080 (FLETCHER GONZALEZ) EMPLOYMENT DISCRIMINATION: ENFORCEMENT

POSITION: The Chamber's Education & Workforce Roundtable voted to OPPOSE this bill on May 1, 2018. The Chamber's Public Policy Committee voted to OPPOSE this bill on May 8, 2018.

STATUS: The bill was passed through the Assembly Judiciary Committee and is being re-referred to the Appropriations Committee

SUMMARY

AB 3080 prohibits an employer from requiring an applicant or employee to waive any right, forum, or procedure under the Fair Employment and Housing Act for receipt of any "employment-related benefit". The language precludes any settlement agreement for any claims.

INDUSTRIES IMPACTED

67% of private California employers

SUPPORTERS

California Labor Federation Consumer Attorneys of California ACLU California California Employment Lawyers Association California Partnership for Working Families International Longshore & Warehouse Union SEIU California UNITE-HERE American Federation of Municipal Employees CA Conference of Machinists California Teamsters Public Affairs Council Courage Campaign Jockey's Guild LAANE

ARGUMENTS IN FAVOR

- Supporters stated the need to ensure that victims have access to justice and that violators are held accountable
- Protects workers from harassment, discrimination, and wage theft

OPPONENTS

California Chamber of Commerce California Apartment Association California Building Industry Association Associated Builders and Contractors, Inc. Building Owners and Managers Association California Farm Bureau Federation California Hotel & Lodging Association California Manufacturers and Tech Association California State Association of Counties Citizens Against Lawsuit Abuse Job Creators for Workplace Fairness Civil Justice Association of California

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION

- It will ultimately harm job growth in California
- It represents an unlawful restriction on arbitration that will harm employees

MORE INFORMATION

The scope of the Federal Arbitration Act is broad and mandates the enforcement of any written arbitration agreement regarding the resolution of any dispute arising out of a transaction involving commerce. AB 3080 unfairly targets and discriminates against arbitration clauses in employment contracts, leaving all other terms of employment mandatory.