



# CONSUMER ATTORNEYS OF CALIFORNIA

*Seeking Justice for All*

## Assembly approves CAOC-sponsored bill to help protect Californians from sexual predators

AB 1870 extends the time limit for harassment victims to file a claim

**SACRAMENTO (May 29, 2018)** – The California Assembly today overwhelmingly approved bipartisan legislation designed to better protect residents from sexual predators by lengthening the time victims are given to file a claim against an abuser.

Assembly Bill 1870, the SHARE (Stopping Harassment and Reporting Extension) Act, will extend the time allowed to file claims of harassment and discrimination under the California Fair Employment and Housing Act. The vote was 57 to 4.

Currently, victims of sexual harassment or discrimination are allowed just one year to file a claim under FEHA. AB 1870 extends that to three years, making it more consistent with the filing time limits for other actions. The time allowed to file an action for personal injury in California is two years; actions for fraud are three years; and contract disputes have a four-year time window.

Low wage earners are particularly harmed by the short filing time allowed under FEHA. Many low wage workers who suffered harassment or discrimination are not aware of their legal rights and do not know that they are time barred if they do not file a claim within a year. By the time they realize the harassment they endured is against the law, many such victims are usually past the time to file or close to the one-year deadline.

AB 1870 is jointly authored by Asm. Eloise Gomez Reyes (D-San Bernardino), Asm. Laura Friedman (D-Glendale) and Asm. Marie Waldron (R-Escondido) and is co-sponsored by CAOC along with the California Employment Lawyers Association and Equal Rights Advocates.

The bill now moves to the state Senate for consideration.

*Consumer Attorneys of California is a professional organization of plaintiffs' attorneys representing consumers seeking accountability against wrongdoers in cases involving personal injury, product liability, environmental degradation and other causes.*

### **For more information:**

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