



CONSUMER ATTORNEYS OF CALIFORNIA

Seeking Justice for All

Four CAOC-backed bills advance

Consumer protection bills pass Assembly, Senate Judiciary Committees

SACRAMENTO (June 21, 2016) – Four bills supported by Consumer Attorneys of California that protect California consumers advanced today after being approved by Legislative committees at the State Capitol.

Two bills were passed this morning by the Assembly Judiciary Committee:

- [SB 1078](#) by Sen. Hannah-Beth Jackson (D-Santa Barbara) addresses injustice and bias by private arbitration firms that handle forced arbitrations. Such firms often work with defendant companies on a regular basis without disclosing any conflict of interest. SB 1078 strengthens current marketing limitations and disclosure requirements as well as rules relating to the ability of arbitrators to enter into future agreements with corporate defendants. The bill now goes to the Assembly floor.
- [SB 1241](#) by Sen. Bob Wieckowski (D-Fremont) stops corporations from forcing Californians to go out of state to settle disputes or forcing Californians to settle disputes under watered-down consumer protection laws of another state. SB 1241 next goes to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

This afternoon two bills were approved by the Senate Judiciary Committee:

- [AB 2527](#) by Assemblymember Ed Chau (D-Arcadia) will produce court procedural efficiencies, including allowing coroner's photographs to be released prior to litigation and requiring earlier disclosure of expert information. The bill is co-sponsored by CAOC and the California Defense Counsel. AB 2527 next goes to the Senate Appropriations Committee.
- [AB 2748](#) by Assemblymember Mike Gatto (D-Glendale) arose from the Porter Ranch natural gas disaster in Los Angeles County. It prohibits polluters from preying on vulnerable residents forced out of their homes by offering safe housing in exchange for surrendering their right to sue the polluter. AB 2748 next goes to the Senate Environmental Quality Committee.

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:

**J.G. Preston, CAOC Press Secretary, 916-669-7126, jgpreston@caoc.org
Eric Bailey, CAOC Communications Director, 916-669-7122, ebailey@caoc.org**