

[Consumer Attorneys of California](#)
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**California Moves to Stop “Death Discounts” for Negligent
Corporations When Their Victims Pass Away**

*Senate Bill 447 Crosses Significant Hurdle with Broad Support on the Senate
Floor*

Sacramento, CA – Today the California State Senate voted overwhelmingly to advance [Senate Bill 447](#), legislation authored by Senator John Laird (D-Santa Cruz). The bill now heads to policy committees in the Assembly for consideration.

SB 447 aims to restore the right of a victim or their loved ones to pursue human suffering damages even if they pass away before their trial. This critical legislation would stop wrongdoers who are taking advantage of existing law from enjoying a “death discount” by taking advantage of pandemic-induced court delays or purposefully delaying court proceedings until their victims die.

“Families deserve a chance to recover from and hold responsible parties accountable for negligence that results in human suffering and even death, but current law in California prevents victims and their loved ones from obtaining justice in those cases,” said **Senator John Laird, author of SB 447**. “SB 447 will end a decades-old injustice for defendants whose victims die prior to case resolution.”

“We are grateful to the Senate for advancing this critical legislation that will ensure families can still recover human suffering damages even after their loved ones die,” said **Nancy Peverini, Legislative Director, Consumer Attorneys of California**. “California is one of just five states in the nation that rewards deadly negligence by allowing these damages for the anguish, misery, or grief a victim has experienced to die with them. SB 447 will finally restore access to justice in these cases for victims and their loved ones.”

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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.