SAFE AND AFFORDABLE DRINKING WATER
The California Water Code enshrines safe, affordable water as a human right, but over 1 million Californians still lack access to clean water. The Silicon Valley Leadership Group supports AB 217 (E. Garcia) and a sustainable funding source for safe drinking water, which will also help modernize our outdated infrastructure and improve supply reliability.

EDUCATION
The Education and Workforce Development portfolio promotes and champions high-quality education through state policy advocacy. Our members’ top priority is to build a strong, local talent pool reflective of our community. Within 10 years, our goal is to build a STEM workforce that reflects Silicon Valley by doubling and diversifying the annual number of local STEM graduates prepared for innovation economy careers.

INCREASING AFFORDABLE HOUSING FUNDING
We are in an affordable housing crisis - nearly 6 million households in California cannot afford housing costs (45% of our population). The Leadership Group supports AB 10 (Chiu) to expand the state’s Low Income Housing Tax Credit to increase California’s affordable housing funding.

ZERO-EMISSION BUSES
California has a mandate for transit agencies to reach 100% zero-emission buses by 2040. The Leadership Group strongly supports AB 784 (Mulin) because it will reduce the upfront capital cost of ZEBs by exempting them from the state portion of the sales tax until January 1, 2024. This will reduce the burden on transit agencies, allowing them to transition to ZEBs more quickly, and allowing them to spend the savings on other critical transit priorities.

BENEFITS OF ZERO-EMISSION VEHICLES (ZEV)
The Leadership Group supports AB 1424 (Berman), legislation that would support the mobility, environmental and economic benefits of zero-emission vehicles (ZEV) by requiring public EV charging stations to provide a minimum of two payment options to provide the flexibility needed to reach California’s goals of scaling-up EV charging infrastructure and ZEV deployment.

FREE AND OPEN INTERNET
The Leadership Group supports AB 1366 (Gonzalez) because it removes the possibility of future regulation of the internet, and reduces the potential cost of doing business online. This bill will permanently prohibit the CPUC from regulating VoIP and IP services.

CORPORATE TAX
The Leadership Group opposes SB 37 (Skinner) which would increase California’s corporate tax rate from 8.84% to 10.84%. This would increase the possibility that the tax rate could go as high as 22.26% depending upon the ratio of CEO compensation to workforce compensation, and whether U.S. employment falls more than 10% while foreign employment does not decline. This is important to California because significant tax increases on California employers will result in fewer jobs, lower salaries and slower economic growth.

The Leadership Group opposes SB 468 (Jackson) which would repeal all tax expenditures, including the R&D tax credit, and would impose significant restrictions on future re-enactment.

ACCESSIBLE & AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE
The Leadership Group is deeply committed to making health care more accessible and affordable to all including universal and affordable insurance coverage, stabilized or decreased costs for employers, affordable insurance rates, and Medi-Cal expansion. We urge lawmakers to create, amend, or retain policies that ensure accessible and affordable health care while including businesses at the table.

TRANSIT-ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT ZONING
Our communities need to grow up rather than out. We have made multi-billion dollar investments in transit solutions - we need to leverage transit investments for housing. The Leadership Group supports SB 50 (Wiener) which activates the opportunity to provide both homes and jobs, ease traffic, cut greenhouse gases, and improve our quality of life.

DATA PRIVACY
SB 561 (Jackson) would expand the CA Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA) by expanding consumers’ right of action for lawsuit, eliminating specialized compliance direction from the AG, and the 30-day grace period for compliance corrections. The Leadership Group opposes SB 561, as it makes compliance with the CCPA more difficult, more expensive, and less clear.

The Leadership Group opposes AB 1760 (Wicks) as it extends the scope of the CCPA by requiring that companies may not use personal data unless consumers opt-in to allow such use. This extends the CCPA beyond its original intent, and unfairly burdens organizations that use consumer data.

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