



**BlueGreen Alliance California Newsletter
September 2025**

Happy fall everyone. The legislative session has come to a close and a number of California BlueGreen Alliance (BGA) supported bills sit on the Governor’s desk. Also, this month we are sharing a recent op-ed in the Sacramento Bee highlighting the importance of a BGA CA priority bill, AB 1280. We also highlight below the BGA staff who met earlier this month for an in-person retreat to continue the work for a decarbonized economy with strong jobs, despite a hostile federal environment.

ICYMI:

In a recent op-ed, Industrious Labs and BGA partner SMART Local 104 argue that AB 1280 (Garcia) is how California can lead by modernizing its factories with zero-emission technologies, fueling union job growth and cleaner air for all.

BGA CA strongly supported this legislation and is excited that the bill is now on the Governor’s desk. The industrial sector is California’s 2nd-largest source of greenhouse gas emissions, and much of it still runs on fossil fuels. AB 1280 offers a path to transition to cleaner, zero-emissions systems by supporting union jobs, cleaner air, and a stronger manufacturing economy.

This op-ed makes the case for upgrading outdated industrial equipment in California—a quiet but powerful source of air pollution and climate emissions.

Read the full piece here:

<https://www.sacbee.com/opinion/op-ed/article312230605.html>

Legislative Update:

The following bills were supported by the BGA coalition and are now awaiting Governor Newsom’s signature:

AB 288 (McKinnor) California Federation of Labor Unions priority bill to protect a worker's right to join a union and bargain collectively.

AB 1280 (Garcia) The bill would expand existing programs at the California Energy Commission (CEC) and iBank to support industrial facilities to install clean technology that is already commercially available and that can help slash their climate emissions while creating high road jobs for those who will upgrade the facilities.

SB 294 (Reyes) Another priority for the California Federation of Labor Unions, this bill would educate labor and civil rights workers and employers to promote adequate, just, and equal enforcement of worker protection laws.

SB 513 (Durazo) This is a United Steelworkers (USW) sponsored bill that ensures employee personnel records include education and training and would require the records to be accurately maintained.

SB 787 (McNerney) Sponsored by the United Auto Workers (UAW), this bill would create an office in the CEC to coordinate supply chain build out in the offshore wind, battery, building decarbonization, and heat pump sectors.

Spotlight: BGA Staff Retreat



BGA works across the country to build solidarity for climate action while ensuring good, union jobs are maintained as we transition our economy. This month, staff gathered in Minneapolis to unite under the organization's mission and strategic plan and continue the work in advancing our goals during these challenging times.

One of the goals of the retreat was to remind each other of all the people dedicated to working to make our country better despite a difficult year. As states tackle issues such as clean tech manufacturing and industrial decarbonization, BGA is building infrastructure to support this work.

BGA is working to solve policy challenges and link our work to the bigger picture in this political moment and strengthen the relationships that make those processes work. We're laying the foundation for durable wins federally and for the states and communities we serve.

Thanks for reading! If you have any questions, comments, or feedback on what you want us to cover, please let us know: fgracey@bluegreenalliance.org

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The BlueGreen Alliance (BGA) unifies labor unions and environmental organizations into a powerful force working for an economy that fights climate change, protects the health of people and the environment, stands against economic and racial inequality, and creates and maintains good-paying, union jobs in communities across the country.

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