



**JOIN US FOR PACIFIC RESEARCH INSTITUTE'S FOURTH ANNUAL
California "Ideas in Action" Policy Conference**

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2022

**Hyatt Regency Sacramento
Capitol View Room (15th Floor), 1209 L Street
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA**

SAVING CALIFORNIA

In the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic and the California recall election, California is a state of many problems. As PRI's new book *Saving California* suggests, market-based reforms can help solve some of California's biggest policy problems and even advance the goals of some of the state's most progressive legislators.

At our fourth annual California "Ideas in Action" policy conference, hear from a distinguished group of experts with significant experience in their respective policy areas discuss real-world policy changes that could push the state onto a better track and put the gold back in the Golden State. Hear informative panel discussions on:

- CEQA at 52: Removing Barriers to Construction and Opportunities for Reform
- Stemming California's Outmigration
- California Burning – On Wildfires, Power Blackouts, and Drought

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

11:30 AM DOORS OPEN AND REGISTRATION BEGINS

NOON KEYNOTE LUNCHEON



Conference Master of Ceremonies

Sally C. Pipes

President, CEO, and Thomas W. Smith Fellow in Health Care Policy



Keynote Speaker

The Hon. Anne Marie Schubert

Sacramento County District Attorney



Session moderated by

Lance Izumi

Senior Director, Center for Education, Pacific Research Institute

1:00 PM BREAK

**1:10 PM PANEL DISCUSSION:
CEQA AT 52: REMOVING BARRIERS TO CONSTRUCTION AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR REFORM**

The California Environmental Quality Act, or CEQA, has been flagged by many observers as one of the prime contributors to the state's housing woes, a politician-created crisis that has made it very difficult to build any type of housing and has contributed to record-high rents and home prices with very expensive mortgages thanks to little available supply on the market.

It has contributed to an increased cost of living for millions of Californians – costs that are particularly burdensome on lower-income and minority communities who can least afford these additional expenses.

The authors of PRI's new study will discuss their research documenting the problems with CEQA and its negative impacts on California's diverse and low-income communities. They will also discuss much-needed reforms that will enable the state to safeguard its environmental future while also growing the economy.

Speakers:

- **Authors of PRI's new CEQA reform study**
- **Nolan Gray, Fellow, PRI's Center for California Reform**
- **Other speakers to be announced**

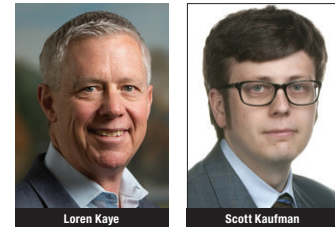
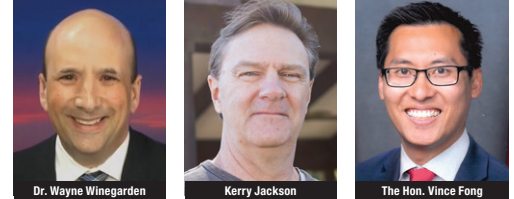
2:00 PM BREAK

2:05 PM PANEL DISCUSSION: STEMMING CALIFORNIA'S OUTMIGRATION

Even before the economic downturn fueled by the Covid-19 pandemic, California's economy was losing jobs and opportunity to other states. The authors of PRI's recent study document just how bad the California outmigration problem is, and the reasons why so many employers and families are leaving the Golden State. They lead a group of experts in exploring how state lawmakers can stop the flow of businesses, human capital, economic output, and tax revenue to other states through market-based reforms.

Speakers:

- **Dr. Wayne Winegarden**
Senior Fellow, Business and Economics, Pacific Research Institute
- **Kerry Jackson**
Fellow, Center for California Reform, Pacific Research Institute
- **The Hon. Vince Fong**
California State Assemblymember, 34th District
- **Loren Kaye**
President, California Foundation for Commerce and Education
- **Scott Kaufman**
Legislative Director, Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association



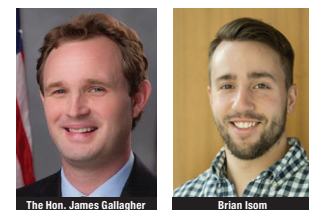
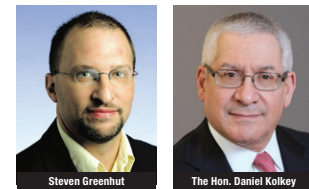
2:55 PM BREAK

3:00 PM PANEL DISCUSSION: CALIFORNIA BURNING – ON WILDFIRES, POWER BLACKOUTS, AND DROUGHT

California once again experienced one of the largest wildfires in state history in 2021, in the shadow of a severe drought that is increasing fire danger. Utilities implemented public safety power shutoffs, plunging Californians in the affected areas into darkness. Meanwhile, a scandal that came to light shows that California officials aren't doing what they promised to reduce wildfire risk. Policy experts discuss what can be done to prevent future wildfires or significantly reduce their severity, including state water policy in the most fire-prone areas of the state.

Speakers:

- **Steven Greenhut**
Author of PRI book, *Winning the Water Wars*
Western Region Director, R Street Institute
- **The Hon. Daniel Kolkey**
Pacific Research Institute Board Member
Chair, PRI California Reform Committee
- **The Hon. James Gallagher**
California State Assemblymember, 3rd District
- **Brian Isom**
Research Manager, Center for Growth and Opportunity, Utah State University



3:50 PM CLOSING REMARKS

Steven Greenhut
Editor of PRI Book, *Saving California*
Western Region Director, R Street Institute

4:00 PM CONFERENCE CONCLUDES