UCAN Chamber leaders meet with Legislators to advance 2019 State Policy Agenda

On February 25, over 60 local chamber leaders presented UCAN's 2019 State Policy Agenda to state legislators. Assemblemenmbers Frank Bigelow, Ken Cooley and Kevin Kiley and Senator Jim Nielsen, all of whom expressed support for UCAN's efforts and appreciation of UCAN’s policy positions.

With gains by Democrats in both the Assembly and the Senate, it is increasingly important for business-oriented interests like UCAN to engage with relatively pro-business Moderate Democrats. To gain greater insights into the “Mod Dem” caucus, UCAN invited Sacramento political consultant David Townsend to speak to the assembled business leaders. Townsend has advised the Mod Dem Caucus for several years and informed UCAN chamber leaders that many of the new legislators must establish relationships with their constituents in their local districts and, as a result, local chambers of commerce have a unique opportunity to amplify the voice of small business in the legislature.

El Grove Chamber leaders met a few weeks later with State Senator Richard Pan and his staff at his State Capitol office. Mr. Townsend, among others indicated the Senate may be the more moderate of the two legislative houses during 2019-20 legislature so establishing relationships with moderate Democrats like Sen. Pan are crucial. Sen. Pan appreciated the visit and he and his staff were especially interested to hear from UCAN members’ their positions with respect to the Dynamex decision.

At the recommendation of Assemblyman Ken Cooley, leaders from UCAN also met with Lt. Governor Eleni Kounalakis at her office in the State Capitol. Local Chamber leaders presented the Lt. Governor with the 2019 UCAN State Policy Agenda and reviewed early bill positions on taxes, economic development and Dynamex. Kounalakis, a Sacramento area resident, encouraged UCAN leaders to continue to engage members of the legislature and shared her priorities relative to economic development and small business – which include working with Governor Newsom to open California to all businesses in the state.

UCAN Chambers focused efforts on Water Tax and AB 5. UCAN encouraged members engaged on a host of bills, we chose to focus on efforts on two priority bills:

• Water Tax/SB 200 (Monning) Do we need both sentences? Instead of a surcharge on water bills, the final version of the bill tapped carbon tax/cap and allocated funds to the California Safe Drinking Water Fund. The UCAN Chambers were the only local chamber of commerce group included in a coalition organized by the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) to oppose the water tax.

DynamexI 5 (Gonzalez), sought to codify the California Supreme Court’s ruling narrowing the definition of independent contractors, dominated much of the 2019 legislative session and occupied a big chunk of the news cycle. The Dynamex decision reversed a compliant filed by truck drivers against a trucking company that misclassified the drivers as independent contractors rather than employees. Unfortunately, the court chose to apply the ruling to a large trucking company and, significantly narrowed the definition of an independent contractor.

Many individual groups – such as physicians and insurance agents – lobbied Assemblymember Gonzalez for special “ carve outs” and the big prize for organized labor, sponsors of the bill, were those independent contractors engaged in the so called “gig” economy – Uber, Lyft and others on-demand “app-based” services.

Meanwhile, small businesses dependent upon independent contractors to provide a flexible workforce were not well represented in the debate.

Welcome New Members

Sol Nisbet Home Loans
My time as a Mortgage Loan Officer, Community Leader/Advocate and Director of the Divide Chamber of Commerce has shown me the importance of showing up for all people needing support within our community!

I am honored to have the ability to provide my expertise to our amazing small community for 20 years. In that time, I have learned that relationships & trust are key and valuable. My experience in the world of finance started in 2007, when I started working for a small bank, Placer Sierra Bank. An eventual merger with Wells Fargo Bank provided me with the skills to eventually become the Manager of the Cool branch. A position I held for six years. Looking to further opportunities and help people achieve the “American Dream of homeownership,” I made my move into the Mortgage world in 2013.

I have made a commitment to continue to help my community thrive, as a Loan Officer offering those first time home buyers, to the couple who is now able to save money for their kids’ college because we’ve been able to save enough thru a referral. As a community leader, I hope to instill that as professional women, I can volunteer, have a career and raise a family. Balancing life is an important skill to master, Chase what matters to you in life. Never stop growing and learning how to be & do better.

I am honored to have the support of many clients who I support as a community to my call friends. If you have a need in the world of Finance, I feel free to reach out anytime, I am here to serve.

Spotlight on a Gold Member

Sol Nisbet Home Loans

Sol Nisbet

Mortgage Loan Officer
530-401-5605
G4700055

With Amscan, the company that combines everyday value, quality and superior customer service, we are the go-to choice for all your business needs. Amscan delivers from coast to coast, so you can trust us to offer the right products when and where you need them. With a wide variety of options to choose from, we’re committed to helping you create a memorable experience for your guests. From table settings to decorations and food service supplies, we have everything you need to host a successful event. Best of all, we make it easy to order online, allowing you to save time and focus on what matters most – your guests.

With Amscan, we’re the perfect choice for your next event. Our commitment to quality, value and service, combined with our extensive selection of products, ensures that you’ll find exactly what you need to create a beautiful and successful event. So whether you’re planning a small gathering or a large celebration, Amscan is your go-to source for all your business needs. 

Say goodbye to stress and hello to success. Let Amscan help you make your next event a resounding success. Contact us today and discover the difference Amscan can make for your business.

The EDC Chamber was there to help celebrate the opening of the Tribal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) now at El Dorado County located at 532 Main Street, Placerville. In and many years of service by TANF East Director, Daniel Delgado, a traditional Native American Blessing was given.

Kings Meats Butcher Shop

Shingle Springs Tribal TANF Celebration

Located in the old Sisquoc Mills building at 787 Pleasant Valley Rd, Diamond Springs. Casey King has expanded his Butchers Kitchen Food truck service by providing fresh cut meats, wild elfed beef, sausage, cheeses, local produce, sauces, marinades, rubs, pellet smokers and supplies, local beer & wine.

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**Coronavirus and Flu: Managing Illnesses in the Workplace**

HR Watchdog, Matthew J. Roberts, Esq.

Recently, the coronavirus has been a hot topic of conversation, social media, and the news; earlier this month, the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Alex Azar declared it a national public health emergency. However, while the coronavirus has grabbed our national attention, an estimated 26 million Americans suffer from seasonal influenza each year, and the United States is in the midst of a public health emergency related to the flu.

**Coronavirus and Flu: Managing Illnesses in the Workplace**

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has developed a Guide to Coronavirus and Flu: Managing Illnesses in the Workplace. This guide is designed to help employers and employees understand the basics of the viruses, the different symptoms they can cause, and what can be done to prevent and control these illnesses. The guide also includes guidance on workplace policies and procedures to help prevent the spread of illness.

**Meetings**

- **Mar 05**: Diplomats, noon, Chamber Conf. Room, 11 a.m.
- **Mar 05**: Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Joint Chambers, 730, EDCOE
- **Mar 12**: Joint Chambers, 7:30, EDCOE
- **Mar 12**: Visitor’s Afternoon, 3 p.m., Chamber Conf. Room
- **Mar 20**: Business Awards & State of the County, 11 a.m.
- **Mar 20**: Business Showcase & Love Film Mixer, 4 p.m.

**El Dorado County Fairgrounds, 100 Placerville Dr. 4 – 8 p.m.**

**Contact**: julie@arconservancy.org or 530-621-1224.

**Live Music**

- **Mar 14**: UCCE Master Gardeners
- **Mar 16**: Bird Watching at Sr. Claire Seeds Farm

**Workshops**

- **Mar 14**: UCCE Master Gardeners
- **Mar 14**: UCCE Master Gardeners
- **Mar 30**: Beginning Birding

**Other Events**

Visit www.placerville-downtown.org or email events@placerville-downtown.org for more information.

**Japanese Art of Flower Arrangement Influenced by Buddhist Philosophy**

El Dorado County Fairgrounds. For tickets and information call 530-621-1224.

**Business Showcase & Love Film Mixer**

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**Joint Chambers, 730, EDCOE**

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