

Catholic Lobby Day

The theme for the 2010 Catholic Lobby Day that was held in Sacramento on April 27 was *Make Priorities: Put Children and Those in Need First*. This year that included: [AB 1642](#) , *Food Stamps*; [SB 399](#) , *Youth Sentencing*; and [SB 1460](#) , the *Dream Act*. In brief, we are invited to thank our state congress members for their support of:

SB 399- Sentencing (Yee, D-San Francisco) - Under California law, youth as young as 14 years of age can be sentenced to life without the possibility of parole. Under SB 399 juveniles could still be sentenced to life in prison, but they would have the opportunity for parole considerations.

SB 1460 - California Dream Act (Cedillo, D-Los Angeles) - The California Dream Act would allow California high school students who have been accepted into a California college - both U.S. citizens and undocumented "AB 540" students - to apply for financial aid.

AB 1642 - CalWORKs and Food Stamp Program (Beall, D-San Jose) - Even though California enjoys a rich and diverse agricultural economy that provides food to the rest of the nation, our state now has over 10 million residents with food insecurity. AB 1642 would simplify the food stamp process by moving the frequency of reports to every six months instead of once a quarter.

Background papers on these topics can be found at <http://www.cacatholic.org/index.php/take-action/lobby-day.html>