

# AB 1922: Green Collar Certification Program

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## Assemblymember Laurie Davies

### IN BRIEF

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AB 1922 would require the Director of the California Conservation Corps to establish a Green Collar Certification Program that provides young persons participating in the corps with skills and education relating to reducing carbon emissions in residential and nonresidential buildings, preparing communities for environmental disasters, and developing conservation infrastructure projects that stabilize shorelines and restore ecological habitats, as provided. The bill would require the director to issue a Green Collar Certificate to a corpsmember who successfully completes the program. The bill would authorize the director to apply for and accept grants or donations of funds from any public or private source that are provided for specified purposes relating to the program. The bill would establish the Green Collar Certification Program Fund and would require the grants or donations described above to be deposited into the fund.

### THE ISSUE

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The California Conservation Corps (CCC) is a voluntary work development program specifically for men and women between the ages of 18 and 25 (up to 29 for veterans), that offers work in environmental conservation, fire protection, land maintenance, and emergency response to natural disasters.

Our state is at a crossroads when it comes to engaging the next generation and inspiring them to consider a field in environmental mitigation. Our current system has prepared, and rightfully so up to this point, young people for jobs in either “white-collar” and “blue-collar” industries. However, we are neglecting a growing field of jobs that need a “green-collar” workforce. The jobs include helping people make their homes and businesses more energy efficient.

Alternatively, using the most up-to-date technology to help mitigate our growing coastal erosion crisis.

According to [Deloitte](#), “From 2015 to 2021, the proportion of “green talent” rose by 38.5 percent, increasing from 9.6 percent to 13.3 percent.

Additionally, The United States had around 923,400 renewable energy jobs in 2021, with 369,000 in biofuels and 255,000 in solar PV.” Furthermore, it cannot be overstated how much environmental awareness is also

creating more ecotourism. This expansion has led to the creation of jobs related to adventure experiences, discovery of ecological trail areas, and renewal of rural areas.

The state must act accordingly and start training the next generation to compete for and fill these in-demand jobs.

### CURRENT LAW

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Current law establishes the California Conservation Corps to train young people on energy and natural resource conservation mitigation efforts. However, no program exists within the Corps to specifically train the next generation for environmental jobs of tomorrow.

### THE SOLUTION

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AB 1922 would create the Green Collar Certification Program inside the existing CA Conservation Corps to prepare participants for jobs in the environmental mitigation industry.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

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