

California Subsequent Injuries Benefits Trust Fund: Survey Memo

Conducted April 16-20, 2026



David Binder Research

A survey conducted from April 16th to 20th, 2026 by David Binder Research of 600 likely November voters finds that California voters do not want to see significant changes to the Subsequent Injuries Benefits Trust Fund, especially when they learn that thousands of workers with pending claims would receive significantly less compensation or nothing at all. 64% of voters oppose making changes. Further, 79% of voters say that any changes to the Subsequent Injuries Benefits Trust Fund should go through the regular legislative process.

⇒ **California voters believe that the Subsequent Injuries Benefits Trust Fund is a good idea.** When voters learn that the Subsequence Injuries Benefits Trust Fund provides additional benefits to workers who had a pre-existing disability, such as a prior injury or medical condition, and then suffered a new workplace injury that made their overall disability significantly worse, **55% say it's a good idea and only 19% say it's a bad idea.**

⇒ **Voters do not want changes to the Subsequent Injuries Benefits Trust Fund.**

- **Before voters hear any additional information about the Subsequent Injuries Benefits Trust Fund, 51% say they oppose making changes.** Only 19% support changes.
- **After voters hear information that thousands of workers who are deemed 100% disabled by board certified physicians and have pending claims would either receive significantly less compensation or nothing at all, opposition to changes increases by 13 points.** 64% say they oppose making changes. Only 16% support changes.

Do you support or oppose making changes to the Subsequent Injuries Benefits Trust Fund to reduce the amount of benefits paid to injured workers?

	Before information	Upon hearing pending claims will be affected	CHANGE
Support	19	16	-3
Oppose	51	64	+13
Don't know	30	20	-10

⇒ **79% of voters say that a change like this one should go through the regular legislative process and that the Governor should not make changes to the Subsequent Injuries Benefits Trust Fund quickly through a budget trailer bill.**

Making Changes to the Subsequent Injuries Benefits Trust Fund

Should go through the regular legislative process	79
Governor making changes through a budget trailer bill is okay	9
Don't know	12

Methodology

DBR conducted 600 interviews with likely California voters using mixed modes of voter contact, including telephone and text-to-web. Respondents were likely November 2026 voters. The survey was conducted in English and Spanish. The margin of the sampling error is ±4.0%.