

NEWS ALL DAY.

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Assembly passes tough renewable energy bill

#### BY TARYN LUNA tluna@sacbee.com

FOUNDED 1857

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Despite objections from utilities and oil companies, the Assembly voted 43-32 to eliminate fossil fuels in the state's energy sector on Tuesday. Senate Bill 100, introduced by Sen. Kevin de León,

### Cash bail won't be needed in California starting Oct. 2019

Brown signs bill requiring 'risk assessments' for those arrested

#### BY ALEXEI KOSEFF akoseff@sacbee.com

Gov. Jerry Brown on Tuesday signed sweeping legislation to eliminate cash bail in California. The change, which will take effect in October 2019, goes further than any other state in the country to remove money from pretrial detention.

FACEBOOK.COM/SACRAMENTOBEE

"Today, California reforms its bail system so that rich and poor alike are treated fairly," Brown said in a statement.

Under Senate Bill 10, California will replace bail with "risk assessments" of individuals and non-monetary conditions of release. Counties will establish local agencies to evaluate any individual arrested on felony charges for their likelihood of returning for court hearings and their chances of re-arrest.

A person whose risk to public safety and risk of failure to appear is determined to be "low" would be released with the least restrictive non-monetary conditions possible. "Medium-risk" individuals could be released or held depending on local standards. "High-risk" individuals would remain in custody until their arraignment, as would anyone who has committed certain sex crimes or violent felonies, is arrested for

driving under the influence for the third time in less than 10 years, is already under supervision by the courts or has violated any conditions of pretrial release in the previous five vears.

Mostly sunny

\$2

Advocates of abolishing bail contend that too many defendants remain stuck in custody because they cannot afford to bail out, effectively creating unequal justice based on wealth. Nearly two-thirds of inmates in California jails are being held awaiting trial.

California is at the forefront of a national campaign to end money bail that has also recently seen states like New Jersey and New Mexico adopt polices to circumvent the for-profit bail industry, though none had yet eliminated bail completely.

SB 10 was approved by the Legislature last week, after a nearly two-year push, with largely Democratic support. But it faced heavy opposition from

### The Ins and Outs of Bail

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(A bail bond is like a loan for bail – 10 percent upfront, along with collateral. Fees are not refunded.) **RESEARCH & ANALYSIS** 

### The Ins and Outs of Bail

Economic Well-Being of U.S. Households in 2022

May 2023

When asked for the largest expense they could cover using only savings [...] 18 percent said the largest expense they could cover with savings was under \$100 and an additional 14 percent said the largest expense they could cover was between \$100 and \$499. If you get bail, you have three choices:

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### Mass Incarceration: The Whole Pie 2023



The majority of those held at local jails have not been convicted of a crime.

Mostly sunny 81°/56° See 6B

### **WATHE SACRAMENTO BEE**

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BY TARYN LUNA thuna@sacbee.com

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SEE BAIL, 5A

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NEWS ALL DAY. WEDNESDAY AUGUST 29 2018 YOUR WAY

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### QUARTZ

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**TECH & INNOVATION** 

#### **FRYING PAN, FIRE, ETC**

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2 - Mostly sunny 81°/56° See 68

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### California just replaced cash bail with algorithms

# Machine Bias

There's software used across the country to predict future criminals. And it's biased against blacks.

by Julia Angwin, Jeff Larson, Surya Mattu and Lauren Kirchner, ProPublica May 23, 2016



"... We obtained the risk scores assigned to more than 7,000 people arrested in Broward County, Florida, in 2013 and 2014."

"... We checked to see how many were charged with new crimes over the next two years, the same benchmark used by the creators of the algorithm."



### Prediction Fails Differently for Black Defendants

	WHITE	AFRICAN AMERICAN
Labeled Higher Risk, But Didn't Re-Offend	23.5%	44.9%
Labeled Lower Risk, Yet Did Re-Offend	47.7%	28.0%

Overall, Northpointe's assessment tool correctly predicts recidivism 61 percent of the time. But blacks are almost twice as likely as whites to be labeled a higher risk but not actually re-offend. It makes the opposite mistake among whites: They are much more likely than blacks to be labeled lower risk but go on to commit other crimes. (Source: ProPublica analysis of data from Broward County, Fla.)

PROP Prediction Fails	PROPUBLICA MAN ediction Fails Differently for				
			WHILE	AFRICAN AN	MERICAN
Bla	ack Defendants		Whit	e Defendants	
	Low	High		Low	High
Survived	990	805	Survived	1139	349
Recidivated	532	1369	Recidivated	461	505

FP rate: 23.45

FN rate: 47.72

FP rate: 44.85

FN rate: 27.99

### Pro PUBLICA How We Analyzed the COMPAS **Recidivism Algorithm** Prediction Fails Differently fo by Jeff Larson, Surya Mattu, Lauren Kirchner and Julia Angwin May 23, 2016 AFRICAN AMERIC WHILE **Black Defendants** White Defendants

-	Low	High		Low	High
Survived	990	805	Survived	1139	349
Recidivated	532	1369	Recidivated	461	505
FP rate: 44.85 <mark>~ 8</mark>	305/(805+990)		FP rate: 23.45		
FN rate: 27.99 🗧	532/(532+1369)		FN rate: 47.72		

Black Defendants			White Defendants		
	Low	High		Low	
Survived	990	805	Survived	1139	
Recidivated	532	1369	Recidivated	461	
FP rate: 44.85 ~ 808	5/(805+990)		FP rate: 23.45		
FN rate: 27.99 ~ 53	2/(532+1369)		FN rate: 47.72		

FN rates: If you are a white defendant who went on to reoffend, you are less likely (than a black defendant) to have been labeled as high risk.

Black Defendants			White Defendants			
	Low	High		Low	High	
Survived	990	805	Survived	1139	349	
Recidivated	532	1369	Recidivated	461	505	
FP rate: 44.85 <mark>~ 80</mark>	)5/(805+990)		FP rate: 23.45			
FN rate: 27.99 🗧 5	32/(532+1369)		FN rate: 47.72			

FP rates: If you are a black defendant who did not go on to reoffend, you are more likely (than a white defendant) to have been labeled as high risk anyway. FN rates: If you are a white defendant who went on to reoffend, you are less likely (than a black defendant) to have been labeled as high risk.

Black Defendants			White Defendants		
	Low	High		Low	High
Survived	990	805	Survived	1139	349
Recidivated	532	1369	Recidivated	461	505
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Note: Whether someone is charged again is also biased – factors like police prevalence may be correlated with race, example. (Orthogonal to the math we'll discuss.)



	<b>Black Defendants</b>			White Defendants	
	Low	High		Low	High
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Recidivated	532	1369	Recidivated	461	505
FP rate: 44.85	~ 805/(805+990)		FP rate: 23.45		
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### Machine Bias

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FP rate: 44.85 ~ 805	/(805+990)		FP ra		
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	White Defendant
	Low
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### COMPAS Risk Scales: Demonstrating Accuracy Equity and Predictive Parity

Performance of the COMPAS Risk Scales in Broward County

> Northpointe Inc. Research Department

William Dieterich, Ph.D. Christina Mendoza, M.S. Tim Brennan, Ph.D.

JULY 8, 2016

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990	805	Survived	1139	
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Based on our examination of the work of Angwin et al. and on results of our analysis of their data, we strongly reject the conclusion that the COMPAS risk scales are racially biased against blacks. This report presents evidence that refutes the claim that the COMPAS risk scales were biased against black defendants in a sample of pretrial defendants in Broward County, Florida.

#### PRO PUBLICA f Ӯ 🗭 **Machine Bias**

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The Washington Post

Democracy Dies in Darkness

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532

Northpointe Inc. Research Department

# A computer program used for bail and sentencing decisions was labeled biased against blacks. It's actually not that clear.

White Defendant:

Low

1139

461

By Sam Corbett-Davies, Emma Pierson, Avi Feller and Sharad Goel

Octobor 17 2016 at 5:00 a m EDT





Democracy Dies in Darkness







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**Black Defendants** White Defendants High High Low Low Survived 990 805 Survived 1139 349 Recidivated 532 1369 Recidivated 461 505 FP rate: 44.85 FP rate: 23.45 FN rate: 27.99 FN rate: 47.72 Recidivism rates by risk score 100% Chance of recidivism 75% -Black 50% -White 25% 0% -2 3 5 6 7 8 9 10 4 **Risk score** 

Recidivism rate by risk score and race. White and black defendants with the same risk score are roughly equally likely to reoffend. The gray bands show 95 percent confidence intervals.

When the algorithm predicts somebody as high risk, the recidivism rate is (roughly) the same regardless of race. Among people who do not go onto recidivate, the algorithm mislabels people of different rates at unequal rates.

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**Theorem.** Suppose you have a test for a condition. Suppose further that two groups have unequal prevalence of the condition. Then, unless your test is perfect, there does not exist a test



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**Theorem.** Suppose you have a test for a condition. Suppose further that two groups have unequal prevalence of the condition. Then, unless your test is perfect, there does not exist a test that performs equally among both groups



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**Theorem.** Suppose you have a test for a condition. Suppose further that two groups have unequal prevalence of the condition. Then, unless your test is perfect, there does not exist a test that performs equally among both groups on all performance measures.



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- Some follow-up questions:
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  - How can one choose to weight certain performance measures?



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"Today, California reforms its bail system so that rich and poor alike are treated fairly," Brown said in a statement.

Under Senate Bill 10, California will replace bail with "risk assessments" of individuals and non-monetary conditions of release. Counties will establish local agencies to evaluate any individual arrested on felony charges for their likelihood of returning for court hearings and their chances of re-arrest.

A person whose risk to public safety and risk of failure to appear is determined to be "low" would be released with the least restrictive non-monetary conditions possible. "Medium-risk" individuals could be released or held depending on local standards. "High-risk" individuals would remain in custody until their arraignment, as would anyone who has committed certain sex crimes or violent felonies, is arrested for

driving under the influence for the third time in less than 10 years, is already under supervision by the courts or has violated any conditions of pretrial release in the previous five vears.

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Advocates of abolishing bail contend that too many defendants remain stuck in custody because they cannot afford to bail out, effectively creating unequal justice based on wealth. Nearly two-thirds of inmates in California jails are being held awaiting trial.

California is at the forefront of a national campaign to end money bail that has also recently seen states like New Jersey and New Mexico adopt polices to circumvent the for-profit bail industry, though none had yet eliminated bail completely.

SB 10 was approved by the Legislature last week, after a nearly two-year push, with largely Democratic support. But it faced heavy opposition from

# Prop. 25, which would have abolished California's cash bail system, is rejected by voters

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### Los Angeles Times

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The bail bond industry has pushed to keep California's cash bail system intact. (Gary Coronado / Los Angeles Times)

#### BY PATRICK MCGREEVY

PUBLISHED NOV. 3, 2020 | UPDATED NOV. 4, 2020 8:49 AM PT