

Lilah Lara Bahena

Poli 109

9/16/2026

Role Profile for Lilah Lara Bahena, Chevron/WSPA

Part 1 – Individual/Organization Profile

Character Information (Fake Person)

- Name: Laney Saldana
- Gender: Female (She/Her)
- Occupation: Lobbyist for Chevron/WSPA
- Contact Information:
 - Email/Teams: llarabahena@ucmerced.edu

Name of Organization: Western States Petroleum Association (WSPA)

- Affiliated Company: Chevron Corporation
- Type: Oil & Gas Industry Trade Association
- Headquarters: Sacramento, CA (WSPA) / Houston, TX (Chevron)
- Leadership: Jodie Muller (President & CEO WSPA) / Mike Wirth (Chairman & CEO Chevron)
- Mission: Chevron focuses on providing reliable, affordable energy, while WSPA works to protect and advocate for the oil and gas industry.

Lobbying Expenses Over the Past 3 Years

- 2024: Chevron & WSPA combined: \$25.3 million

- 2023: Chevron: \$12.9 million; WSPA: \$12.4 million
- 2022: Chevron: \$3–5 million; WSPA: \$6–10 million

General Positions on Economic, Social, and Environmental Issues

Economic/Industry Issues

- Support continued oil & gas production in California
- Oppose policies (fees, taxes, emissions caps) that raise fuel prices.
- Promote flexibility in regulations to reduce the pressure of compliance.
- Support infrastructure investment and refinery modernization
- Support the development of hydrogen, carbon capture, and transitional energy technologies
- Maintain employment in the extraction, logistics, and refinery industries.

Social Issues

- Workforce stability and job protection for refinery workers
- Community investment in regions with oil production
- Support for safety standards for workers and surrounding communities
- Emphasis on economic equity for working-class energy consumers

Environmental Issues

- Resistance to drilling limits or strict emissions caps
- Support of "balanced" climate policy
- Support of lower-carbon fuels, hydrogen, and carbon capture

- Promoting the importance of preserving energy dependability throughout climate change

Identify Constituents – Regions of the State With the Highest Concentrations of Constituents

- Kern County – largest oil extraction region
- Contra Costa County – Richmond refinery
- Los Angeles County – Carson, Wilmington, El Segundo refineries
- San Joaquin Valley – pipelines, storage, transport
- San Luis Obispo & Santa Barbara Counties – coastal production history

Part 2 – Constituent Profile

Economics – Unemployment Rate, Income Levels, Poverty Rate

Kern County (Extraction Region)

- Unemployment Rate: 8.6%
- Household income: \$71,596
- Poverty rate: 18.9%

Contra Costa County (Refinery Region)

- Unemployment Rate: 4.8%
- Household income: \$127,229
- Poverty rate: 8.4%

Los Angeles County (Multiple Refineries)

- Unemployment Rate: 5.2%
- Household Income: \$90,112
- Poverty rate: 14%

Demographics

Population (Top Chevron/WSPA Counties) (2025)

- Kern County: 927,068 thousand
- Los Angeles County: 9.6 million
- Contra Costa County: 1.1 million

Race/Ethnicity Breakdown (2025)

Kern County

- Hispanic/Latino: 58.3%
- White: 27.9%
- Black: 6.6%
- Asian: 6.7%

Contra Costa County

- White: 57%
- Hispanic/Latino: 28.7%
- Asian: 22.3%
- Black: 9.1%

Los Angeles County

- Hispanic/Latino: 49.3%
- White: 24.6%
- Asian: 16.6%
- Black: 8.9%

Age & Income Distribution (2025)

- Kern County: Youngest population and lowest income
- Contra Costa County: Oldest population and highest income
- Los Angeles County: Mixed age population and mixed income

Urban/Rural Breakdown (2025)

- Kern County: Mostly rural/suburban
- Contra Costa: Suburban/urban
- Los Angeles: Highly urban

Politics

Partisan Voter Registration

- Kern County (2024)
 - Democratic: 33.6%
 - Republican: 37.1%
 - No Party Preference: 20.7%

Total registered voters: 470,800

- Contra Costa County (2026)
 - Democratic: 51.7%
 - Republican: 19.1%
 - No Party Preference: 29.2%

Total registered voters: 728,827

- Los Angeles County (2026)
 - Democratic: 51%
 - Republican: 18.7%
 - No Party Preference: 30.3%

Total registered voters: 5.8 Million

% Voted Democrat/Republican in 2020, 2016, 2012

Kern County

- 2020: Leaned Republican
- 2016: Leaned Republican
- 2012: Leaned Republican

Contra Costa County

- 2020: Voted Democratic
- 2016: Voted Democratic
- 2012: Voted Democratic

Los Angeles County

- 2020: Voted Democratic
- 2016: Voted Democratic
- 2012: Voted Democratic

Three Issues Important to My Constituents

1. Job Security
2. Fuel Prices
3. Balanced Climate Policy

Economic Issues

- Strong support for protecting oil & gas jobs
- Support for refinery modernization
- Concern about rising fuel costs
- Mixed views on climate policy depending on job sector

Social Issues

- Support for community investment
- Concern about safety near refineries
- Support for workforce training and stability

Environmental Issues

- Support for carbon capture and hydrogen development

- Opposition to rapid bans on drilling or refinery operations
- Support for gradual transition to lower-carbon energy