



SENATOR RICARDO LARA

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

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SENATOR LARA OPENS DOORS TO NEW HUNTINGTON PARK OFFICE



HUNTINGTON PARK DISTRICT OFFICE

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Over a hundred Southeast residents, community organizations and lawmakers joined Senator Ricardo Lara at the opening of his new district office located at Huntington Park's City Hall. Among those who attended were Congresswoman Lucille Roybal Allard who congratulated the Senator for opening an office in the heart of the Southeast.

Senator Lara worked collaboratively with Huntington Park officials to make the office a reality. He wanted to ensure that residents in the Southeast had a direct line to him and his staff. Two full-time staff members working with Southeast cities will be available to work on issues important to the community. Please feel free to contact the Senator's staff at 323-277-4560.

You can also reach the Senator and staff at his Long Beach District Office in Bixby Knolls located at 3939 Atlantic Ave., Suite 107, Long Beach, CA 90807, or by phone at 562-256-7921.

IN THIS ISSUE



SENATOR LARA OPENS DOORS TO NEW HUNTINGTON PARK OFFICE



POTTY PARITY FOR PARENTS ACT DEBUTED IN LONG BEACH



LEGISLATURE RETOOLS WATER BOND FOR 2014 BALLOT



U.S. CHAMBER'S BUSINESS OF THE YEAR FROM PARAMOUNT



CELEBRATING WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY



NOW ACCEPTING YOUNG SENATORS APPLICATIONS



LONG BEACH AREA PARENTING GROUPS JOIN SENATOR LARA IN SUPPORTING POTTY PARITY FOR PARENTS ACT

As the modern American family evolves, men are taking a more proactive role in the rearing of their children and that includes changing their babies' diapers. That's why constituents have raised concerns about being able to change their babies in public restrooms.

As a solution, I've introduced SB 1350, the Potty Parity for Parents Act.

I was joined by dozens of dads at Long Beach's Aquarium of the Pacific to support my legislation that would ensure that public facilities for changing babies' diapers are equally available to both men and women. The bill is the first statewide measure of its kind in the nation.

Baby changing stations provide a safe,

clean, and private place to change babies' diapers. SB 1350 requires a baby changing station to be installed in the men's restroom if one is being installed in the women's restroom, or requires a diaper changing station to be included in a family restroom that is available to both men and women.

Joining me at the press conference were dad advocates and local leaders who expressed their support for the measure.

According to US Census Bureau data from 2010 there are approximately 12 million single parent families in the US, and of those, 2 million are dad-only families.

There are also a growing number of same-sex households with children. The

2010 US Census also notes that there are around 640,000 same-sex households in the US, including 90,000 in California. Of those, 25% of male couples who reported as spouses included children in their household.

According to the TODAY Show, similar citywide measures have been passed in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and Miami, Florida.

This bill is a reasonable and common sense approach to addressing the problem of unequal access to baby changing facilities in public restrooms. We need our state policies to reflect these changing attitudes, and recognize and celebrate the growing role of dads in their kids' lives."





LEGISLATURE RETOOLS WATER BOND FOR 2014 BALLOT

Facing a printing deadline for the Voter Information Guide, legislative leaders of both parties and Governor Jerry Brown came to an agreement (AB 1471) on a re-sized state water bond that will be placed before voters in November. The new \$7.12 billion Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 will be known as Proposition 1, and replaces Proposition 43, the \$11 billion water bond drafted in 2009. It also repurposes an additional \$425 million of existing voter-approved bonds.

California is finally turning a corner in addressing our state's urgent water crisis. While this bond includes important provisions for all of California, I fought to ensure that communities in our region received their fair share of benefits – investments in stormwater capture, to keep pollutants out of storm drains and

turn stormwater into a beneficial resource which will benefit cities like Long Beach, funds to reduce contamination in groundwater basins which are a major source of drinking water for many South East Cities, technical assistance to help smaller cities apply for and receive grants, and funding for the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy for recreation and habitat restoration projects along the Lower Los Angeles River which runs through my entire district.”

Governor Brown signed the legislation shortly after it passed both houses.

The package provides funding for projects that provide drought relief, safe drinking water, and water use efficiency in order to increase the sustainability of California's water systems, including:

- Urgent drinking water treatment for communities that do not currently have access to safe water;
- Critically needed groundwater treatment projects;
- Wastewater treatment to protect California's rivers, streams and beaches;
- Community supported habitat restoration in the Delta;
- Delta levee stability funding to reduce the risk of levee failure due to flood, earthquake and sea-level rise;
- Regional water supply development, including water recycling, groundwater clean-up, and agricultural and urban water conservation;
- Additional surface and groundwater storage;
- Storm-water reuse and capture; and Watershed restoration throughout California.



U.S. CHAMBER'S BUSINESS OF THE YEAR FROM PARAMOUNT

It was my honor to introduce the United States Chamber of Commerce 2014 Small Business of the Year Alondra Hot wings on the Senate floor.

Alondra Hot Wings is located in the City of Paramount in my Senate District. Mr. Garo Kazarian and his brothers epitomize the American Dream and they are deserving of their national recognition.

It's always great to see local businesses making an impact in our community.

CELEBRATING Women's Equality Day AND THE 19th Amendment



After more than half a century fighting for the right for women to vote, the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was certified into law on August 26, 1920. In recognition of this important accomplishment, presidents since 1972 have proclaimed August 26 as Women's Equality Day. Today, this day celebrates the continued progress for equality and serves as a reminder of all the work that remains in order to fully realize a "more perfect union."

The formal beginning of a women's civil rights movement is rooted in 1840, when Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott were denied the opportunity to be seated at the World Anti-Slavery Convention in London because of their sex. After that incident, the two women considered

having a convention to address the condition of women. Eight years later, in 1848, the first women's rights conference was held in Seneca Falls, New York.

Stanton argued that women should bring the issue of their injustice into the public light. She drafted the Declaration of Sentiments, which resembled the Declaration of Independence, to be discussed upon during the conference. In addition, she drafted 11 resolutions, including the "radical" assertion that women should secure for themselves the right to vote. Her struggle to reaffirm the social, civil and religious rights of women would not be fulfilled until many years later. Seventy-two years after the first organized demand in 1848, only one signer of the Seneca

Falls Declaration lived long enough to cast her ballot in an election.

The woman suffrage amendment was introduced for the first time in the U.S. Congress in January 1878. However, the measure was re-introduced several times until finally in June 1919, the amendment was approved by both the House of Representatives and the Senate. Over the course of a year, suffragists lobbied states throughout the nation in order to have the amendment ratified by the required two-thirds of the states.

This is an important day in our country's history. Please join me in celebrating Women's Equality Day!

YOUNG SENATORS NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

The Young Senators Program is now accepting applications for the 2014-2015 school year.

The Young Senators Program is designed to provide high school students with unique opportunities that yield insights about potential career and educational paths. The program is focused on exploring the industries, professions, and social innovations that are critical to our state's economy, cultivating a unique educational-based experience, and fostering the next generation of California leaders. Composed of eight (8) monthly tours and information sessions, the program exposes the students to the major industries of the State of California. Students learn about Transportation & Trade, Education, Arts & Entertainment, Law & Society, Health Care, Government & Legislative

Process, Information Technology & Social Media, and Agriculture.

The Young Senators Program is open to sophomore and junior high school students who reside or attend school in the 33rd Senate District. Applicants must demonstrate leadership and active involvement at their school or in the community. The 33rd Senate District includes the cities of Bell, Bell Gardens, Cudahy, Huntington Park, Lakewood, Long Beach, Lynwood, Maywood, Paramount, Signal Hill, South Gate, South LA, Vernon, and communities of Florence/Firestone and Walnut Park.

To get more information about applying, please contact Jesus.Diaz@Sen.Ca.Gov or call 323-277-4560.

