

# RICARDOLARA

SENATOR, 33RD SENATE DISTRICT

FIRST QUARTER 2016



## Lara Coauthors \$176.6 Million Exide Testing and Cleanup Plan

Senator Lara has been a leading voice in the push to hold Exide accountable for polluting Vernon and surrounding communities. He was proud to co-author Governor Jerry Brown's \$176.6 million spending plan to fund expedited and expanded testing and cleanup of residential properties, schools, daycare centers and parks around the former Exide Technologies facility.

"The affected communities of Southeast Los Angeles have been waiting for a comprehensive, substantive and timely response to hold Exide accountable for the tragedy plaguing thousands of families," said Senator Lara. "Remedies that we've sponsored to-date have focused on increased oversight, transparency and justice for our residents. I thank the Governor for his action on this dire public health issue."

Senator Lara represents Vernon and has been active working with the impacted communities to address concerns and hold Exide accountable. In 2014, Senator Lara's bill, SB712, was signed by the Governor requiring that hazardous waste facilities operating under an interim permit from the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) to achieve compliance with federal and state hazardous waste laws or shut down. This put added pressure on Exide to act.

Senator Lara is committed to working with legislative leaders, stakeholders and the community to ensure that the relief dollars are spent in a responsible and effective manner.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Senator's office at (562)256-7921

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# PHOTO ESSAY: Sen. Lara's Gospel Brunch Celebrates Black History, Promotes Cultural Unity



Senator Lara's 5th Annual Gospel Brunch brought together over 500 community leaders throughout Southeast Los Angeles County.



## Senator Ricardo Lara

In partnership with the City of Lynwood, Greater Lynwood Chamber of Commerce, Lynwood Unified School District, Lynwood Bingo Club & Community Members Welcomes you to





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Peter Phun, UCR

## Senator Lara Discusses 'Diversity and Leadership in Public Service' at the UC Riverside School of Public Policy

Senator Lara was invited to present a lecture at the University of California, Riverside's School of Public Policy where he discussed diversity and leadership in public service. Joined by Dean Anil Deolalikar, Associate Dean Karthick Ramakrishnan and the UC Student Regent-Designate Marcela Ramirez, Senator Lara shared some personal stories from his early days as a student organizer and engaged in candid discussion about his legislative priorities in his time both in the Assembly and State Senate.

Early in his college career, Senator Lara was motivated to get involved politically after he witnessed injustice against undocumented immigrants like his parents. On TV he saw grainy images of families running across the 5 Freeway in San Diego for a commercial supporting the passage of Proposition 187. He began getting involved in the political process to help defeat the measure.

This foundation guided the Sen-

ator's conversation with students, faculty, staff and community leaders. At the core of his message of working together along differences and establishing common ground - even for those who disagree with you.

The Senator discussed how his district is a melting pot of cultures, including the largest Cambodian population outside of Cambodia.

A number of campus and civic organizations co-hosted the event, including: The New American Leaders Project, The Group (African-American community advocacy group in Riverside), NAACP – Riverside Branch, Riverside Latino Network, and UCR African Student Programs, Asian Pacific Student Programs, Chicano Student Programs, Graduate Student Association, LGBT Resource Center, Middle Eastern Student Center, Native American Student Programs, Undocumented Student Programs, Associated Students of UCR, and UCR Office of Government and Community Relations.



## Sen. Lara Thanks Activists for Their #Health4All Advocacy

Senator Lara met with activists in the Inland Empire to commend them for their work organizing their communities around access to health care. Attendees from Coachella to San Bernardino came together to discuss how to successfully educate the community about the upcoming launch of the Health for All Kids legislation and strategies to keep the momentum going for the remaining uninsured. Improving access to health care has become a top priority for the Senator and his legislation, SB10, aims to cover those currently left out of the system.



## New Laws Authored by Senator Lara Take Effect in 2016

In 2015, Senator Lara delivered major victories for the residents of the 33rd Senate District and across California. His legislative package focused on expanding access to health care for vulnerable communities, economic prosperity, advancing justice for our youth, creating a state office to help integrate immigrants, combating pollution, and protecting our constitutional rights. Here's a few of them...

### Health for All Kids Act

Senate Bill 4

170,000 undocumented California kids will get the coverage they need starting 2016. We will become the state with the largest immigrant population to provide coverage to all kids, regardless of their immigration status.

### Right to Record Act

### Senate Bill 411

Protects our constitutional right to record in public. This new law will ensure transparency and accountability to protect our police and civilians.

### Protecting Youth from Predators

Senate Bill 14

Protects child victims of sexual abuse in civil court cases. A child's sexual history can't be used against them by an adult as a defense.

### Helping Youth Turn Their Lives Around

Senate Bill 504

Gives young offenders who have served their sentence a clean slate and an opportunity to turn their life around by removing the fee to seal their record.

### Judicial Consideration

### Senate Bill 382

Allows judges to decide when juvenile offenders should be tried as adults or juveniles.

### Keeping Toxic Waste Facilities Accountable

Senate Bill 673

Reforms the permitting process for industrial sites that handle hazardous waste to include better protections for vulnerable communities.

### Giving Southeast Communities a Voice on LA River

Senate Bill 355

Adds local representation to the board of the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy.

### Increasing Access to Water Bond Funding

Senate Bill 208

Gives small non-profit organizations and local agencies better access to water bond

funding for environmental projects.

### Letting Kids Attend School Where Their Parents Work

Senate Bill 200

Allows children of live-in workers to attend school in the district where their parent works.

### Equity in Worker's Compensation for All

Senate Bill 623

Ensures that workers compensation protections are extended to all employees, regardless of immigration status.

### Creating a Vibrant Long Beach Civic Center

Senate Bill 562

Allows the City of Long beach to use an innovative public/private financing model to rebuild the downtown civic center.



## Senator Takes Aim at Immigration Detention Facilities

One of Senator Lara’s legislative priorities in the new year will be to ensure that individuals detained in immigration facilities are treated with dignity and respect. His new Dignity Not Detention Act will ensure that no city or county can contract out with for-profit immigration detention centers and that all other centers adhere to humane treatment of those detained.

“Humans should not be warehoused,” said Senator Lara. “And nobody should profit off of people’s suffering.”

The new bill, SB1289, was introduced at the CARECEN office and is co-sponsored by the Immigrant Legal Resource Center and CIVIC. Members of the TransLatina Coalition, faith leaders and community advocates came out in support of the launch. Testimonials from individuals who have been detained and mistreated were at the core of the bill’s launch.

This legislation is the first of its kind in the nation and will now go through the legislative process in the coming year.

## Bill Breathes New Life Into Long Beach Civic Center

Senator Lara joined Long Beach Mayor Robert Garcia at the demolition site of the current Long Beach Courthouse which will make way for the new Long Beach Civic Center. Thanks in part to Senate Bill 562, The City of Long Beach was given authority to construct the new development as part of a significant revitalization and modernization plan for Downtown Long Beach.

In 2007 the existing Civic Center was found to be seismically unsafe. An evaluation of the costs to repair the building concluded that it was more prudent to build a new center altogether. This prompted the Senator to

act and author SB562 which paved the path forward for the City to approve a public-private partnership that will provide the best value to the city taxpayers. This modern approach to project financing will allow the city to rebuild its public infrastructure without imposing a tax increase on residents or burdening the City’s general fund.

At the groundbreaking, Senator Lara stated: “This is a new day for the City of Long Beach. Today marks the beginning of a community space that will serve as a gathering place of pride for generations to come.”



**KEEPING CALIFORNIA  
PORTS COMPETITIVE  
2016 REPORT**

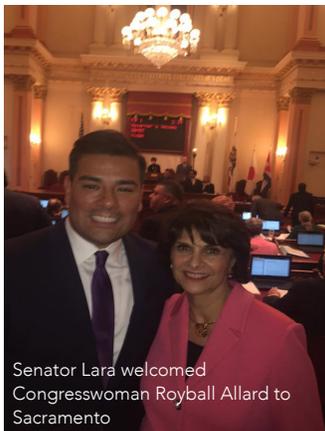


# Sen. Lara Publishes *Keeping Ports Competitive Report*

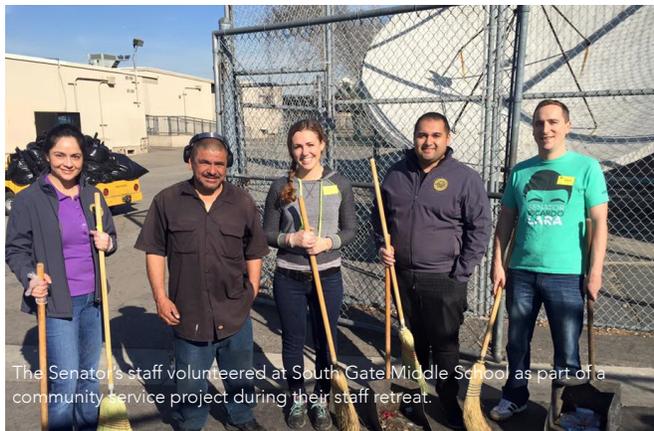
As Chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Ports and Goods Movement, Senator Lara is committed to strengthening the state's economic vitality. Since being selected as Chairman, the Senator has revamped the committee to be more responsive and proactive to the needs of our port's infrastructure and stakeholders.

Our ports are positioned to conduct business with world-class markets and that is why it is paramount for the Legislature to prioritize future investments that lead to a stronger supply chain and greater environmental sustainability. Please visit the committee website to read the full report: <http://calports.senate.ca.gov>.

## District and Sacramento Highlights to Kickoff the New Year



Senator Lara welcomed Congresswoman Royball Allard to Sacramento



The Senator's staff volunteered at South Gate Middle School as part of a community service project during their staff retreat.



The Senator congratulates new Speaker Anthony Rendon!



Christmas continues in January with Toy Drive hosted by the Senator.



The Senator discussed his new legislation to bring accountability to ratepayers at the Central Basin Municipal Water District.

### CONTACT US:

If you have any questions, would you like assistance from my office or would simply like more information on legislation I am working on, please feel free to email my office directly. We will do our best to get back to you as soon as possible.

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