



END OF THE 2023 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILLS PASSED TO THE GOVERNOR'S DESK

Concluding my first full legislative session as the North Bay's State Assemblymember, I am proud to report that we successfully passed seven bills through the State Legislature. These bills are now being considered by the Governor, who has until the 14th of October to sign or veto each measure. I am also thrilled that the Governor has already signed one of these bills into law (more details on the next page). Additionally, we have also sent 44 co-authored bills to the Governor, and eight of these bills have already been signed into law! Below are descriptions of each bill that has made it to the Governor, as well as some of the coauthored legislation that has been signed.

AUTHORED BILLS PASSED TO THE GOVERNOR:

AB 92 (chaptered): prohibits the sale of body armor to dangerous individuals who are also restricted from purchasing firearms.

AB 319: strengthens protections for mobile home residents.

AB 404: streamlines organic certification for small farmers.

AB 620: requires health plans to cover medical nutrition therapy for metabolic and digestive diseases.

AB 935: strengthens enforcement for the flavored tobacco ban law.

AB 1109: restricts the sale of sodium nitrite to teenagers and children, who have increasingly been purchasing this dangerous chemical online and tragically using it to take their own lives.

AB 1132 (joint author): limits the fees a city or county can charge for residential and commercial solar systems.

COAUTHORED BILLS SIGNED INTO LAW:

SB 345: improves protections for providers against the enforcement of other states' laws that criminalize or limit reproductive and gender affirming health care services.

AB 28: imposes an 11 percent excise tax on firearms and ammunition sold by gun manufacturers and dealers. AB 28 is estimated to generate \$160 million annually to fund school safety and violence prevention programs, including initiatives to prevent school shootings, bolster firearm investigations, reduce retaliatory violence, and remove guns from domestic abusers.

SB 2: strengthens California's restrictions regarding public carry laws by enhancing the existing licensing system – ensuring those permitted to carry firearms in public are responsible and law-abiding individuals – setting a minimum age requirement of 21 years of age, ensuring stronger firearm training requirements, and identifying certain sensitive public places.



FIRST BILL SIGNED INTO LAW! AB 92 PROHIBITS THE SALE OF BODY ARMOR TO CRIMINALS

On Thursday, September 26, my first bill - AB 92 - was officially signed into law by Governor Newsom, along with a slate of gun safety legislation. AB 92 will keep military-grade body armor out of the hands of convicted criminals. This bill was drafted in response to perpetrators of gun violence using body armor to prolong their violent rampages. Under AB 92, any person who is prohibited from possessing a firearm would also be prohibited from purchasing or possessing body armor.

Mass shooters are increasingly using body armor, which in turn prolongs their violent rampages and results in more innocent lives lost.

The Violence Project, a non-profit that tracks mass shooting trends, found that a majority of shooters who have worn body armor have done so within the last decade. AB 92 is a solution to help protect innocent bystanders, emergency personnel, and our peace officers.

To read more about this bill, [click here](#).

DAMON CONNOLLY
Assemblymember, District 12

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 26, 2023

Contact: Megan Myre
megan.myre@asm.ca.gov

Connolly's Body Armor Restriction Bill Signed into Law
The governor has signed AB92, Assemblymember Connolly's bill prohibiting sale of body armor to convicted criminals.

Sacramento, CA – Today Governor Gavin Newsom signed Assemblymember Damon Connolly's (D-San Rafael) **Assembly Bill (AB) 92**, which will keep military-grade body armor out of the hands of convicted criminals. This bill was drafted in response to perpetrators of gun violence using body armor to prolong their violent rampages. Under AB 92, any person who is prohibited from possessing a firearm would also be prohibited from purchasing or possessing body armor. This is Assemblymember Connolly's first bill signed into law.

"I am thankful for the governor's support and the bipartisan support of my colleagues in the State Legislature for this common-sense legislation to protect our communities from gun violence," said Assemblymember Connolly. "Mass shootings are an epidemic in our country. Keeping this tool out of the hands of potential criminals is an important step in protecting public safety."

Mass shooters are increasingly using body armor, which in turn prolongs their violent rampages and result in more innocent lives lost. The Violence Project, a non-profit that tracks mass shooting trends, found that a majority of shooters who have worn body armor have done so within the last decade. This bill will protect peace officers, emergency personnel, and every community member who may become a casualty in a mass homicide.

AB 92 will go into effect in January of 2024.

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Assemblymember Connolly represents the entirety of Marin County and Southern Sonoma County



NEW FUNDING FOR THE NORTH BAY

In addition to the hundreds-of-bills passed over the last month, there has also been significant funding announcements regarding investments secured for critical projects in the North Bay. This includes funding for housing, climate change, immigration services, and groundwater sustainability. Read more below:

2023 Microgrant Awardees:

- 350Marin/350BayArea
- 50 Corridor Transportation Management Association
- American Lung Association
- Amigos de los Rios
- Arrowhead United Way
- Asian Pacific American Systemwide Alliance
- Bayside Community Center
- Bayview Concerned Citizens c/o All Things Bayview
- Bella Monte Montessori Academy
- Bike East Bay
- BikeSD
- Black and Brown Unity Land Development
- Breathe California of the Bay Area, Golden Gate, and Central Coast
- Bruno Auri, Inc
- Burbank Transportation Management Organization
- CalCenter
- California State University San Marcos
- City of Glendale, Office of Sustainability
- Clean Sky Strategies
- El Concello of San Mateo County
- Evergreen Islamic Center
- Grant Elementary Safe Routes to School
- GRID Alternatives
- GRID Alternatives Inland Empire
- Health Education Council
- Highlanders Boxing Club
- Hillside High School
- HOPE Collaborative, a project of Tides Center
- I Am Green, Inc.
- Kiwans Club of Carmichael
- Mid-City Community Advocacy Network
- Mission Trails Regional Park (MTRP) Foundation
- Mothers Out Front Silicon Valley
- Moving Forward
- Napa Climate NOW!
- North Park Main Street
- Office of Sustainability, Cal Poly Pomona
- Pittsburg Unified School District
- PressFriends, Inc.
- San Antonio Regional Hospital
- SparkPoint Contra Costa
- Spirit of Community
- SPUR
- TODEC Legal Center
- Town of San Anselmo
- Vietnamese American Community of Sacramento (VACOS)
- Violet Saena
- West Oakland Cultural Action Network

In honor of Clean Air Day, the Coalition for Clean Air awarded 48 microgrants to climate advocate organizations, including those in the North Bay.

September 8, 2022

The Honorable Assemblymember Damon Connolly
California State Assembly District Number 12
1021 O Street, Suite 5240
Sacramento, CA 94249-0024

Dear Assemblymember Damon Connolly:

The California Strategic Growth Council (SGC) and California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) are pleased to inform you that funds from the Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities Program (AHSC) Round 7 have been awarded to a project in your district. For Round 7, we have awarded a total of more than \$750 million to 21 projects across the state.

This round AHSC has awarded \$30,228,840 in your district for the following project:
Meridian at Corona Station. A detailed summary of the components of the project is found on the following page.

More information on the Program:
The Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities Program builds healthier communities and protects the environment by increasing the supply of affordable housing and low-carbon transportation options near jobs, stores, transit, and other daily destinations. AHSC is part of California Climate Investments, a statewide initiative that puts billions of cap-and-trade dollars to work reducing greenhouse gas emissions, strengthening the economy, and improving public health and the environment — particularly in disadvantaged communities.

Since its founding in 2014, the AHSC program has invested over \$3.1 billion across the state through 185 sustainable projects, creating over 15,000 affordable units and reducing almost 4.4 million tons of emissions over the projects' operating lives. AHSC provides both grants and loans for projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, support infill affordable housing, and alter development patterns.

\$30M from the Affordable Housing & Sustainable Communities Program were awarded to Assembly District 12. This project will create 130 affordable homes & include many pedestrian and bikeway improvements to increase safety and accessibility.

PETALUMA VALLEY
GROUNDWATER
SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

The Department of Water Resources awarded the Petaluma Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency a grant of 6.7 million dollars! These funds will be used to improve sustainable groundwater use and storage through the DWR's Sustainable Groundwater Management Grant Program.

GO-Biz News and Updates
September 15, 2023

GO-Biz Announces First-Ever Local Immigrant Integration and Inclusion Grants to Help Immigrants Succeed in Their Communities

Last week, GO-Biz distributed the state's first-ever [Local Immigrant Integration and Inclusion Grant](#) (LIIIG) allocations, with over \$6 million to twelve local governments across California. This program provides funding for local governments to bolster efforts focused on helping immigrant families thrive and contribute — increasing community trust and enhancing the ability of local governments to serve their immigrant communities successfully.

Awarded activities for LIIIG funding include:

1. **Economic Development:** Supporting immigrant entrepreneurs with creating and scaling businesses through various initiatives.
2. **Social Services Navigation:** Helping eligible immigrants access essential public programs.
3. **Intergovernmental Technical Assistance:** Developing and implementing culturally appropriate policies and best practices to serve the immigrant population.

The LIIIG is a one-year grant with a performance period from October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024. GO-Biz is expected to release a limited second round of funding to support further the equitable distribution of funds in rural regions and for underserved immigrant populations.

Marin County was awarded \$386,159.60 in the state's first-ever Local Immigrant Integration and Inclusion Grant distributed by GO-Biz! These funds will be allocated for immigrant social services assistance in the county.

DISTRICT UPDATES: SNAPSHOTS

I continue to enjoy hosting productive meetings with local North Bay residents and attending events and tours in both Marin and Sonoma Counties. Here are some snapshots of some of the meetings and events my office has participated in over the past month. As always, our door is open, if you want to schedule a meeting or send an event invite, please reach out through our website by clicking [here](#).



**PENNGROVE FIRE STATION REMODEL
RIBBON CUTTING**



**SOIL AND HEALTH FORUM AT TARA FIRMA
FARMS, PETALUMA**



**GRAND OPENING OF THE MARIN CITY
HEALTH & WELLNESS CENTER**



**10TH ANNUAL STATE OF THE LATINX
COMMUNITY ADDRESS IN SONOMA**



**8TH STATE OF THE TOMALES BAY
CONFERENCE**



**PENNGROVE KENWOOD WATER COMPANY
MEETING & TOUR**



REMEMBERING DIANNE FEINSTEIN

Like many Californians, I was profoundly saddened to hear that our longtime senator and champion, Dianne Feinstein, passed away at her home in Washington, D.C. She was 90.

Feinstein surmounted an abusive childhood and early political failures to become the first woman to represent California in the Senate and developed into a nationwide figure in the rise of women to national political power. Bay Area natives like my wife Dawn and I remember Feinstein's leadership as Mayor of San Francisco following the tragic 1978 assassination of her predecessor, George Moscone, and Supervisor Harvey Milk. I was always impressed with Feinstein's unwavering support of the LGBTQ community in the Bay Area, particularly during the AIDS crisis in San Francisco, when few politicians had the courage to act or even speak up for our residents. Under her watch, the city's health department created the global standard for AIDS healthcare at San Francisco General Hospital. Equality California described her impact best in a recent statement, saying, "Senator Feinstein stood with our community back when few others did, fighting for funding and action to combat the AIDS crisis when most elected officials chose to look away."

Feinstein went on to win California's Senate seat in 1992's "Year of the Woman" election. In Congress, Feinstein served as the first woman to chair the Senate Rules Committee and the Senate Intelligence Committee. Throughout her career, Feinstein was seen as a trailblazer for women. Someone who broke barriers, juggling being a wife and mother while navigating a career in the male-dominated field of politics.

Below, you can find a list of some of her major accomplishments during her storied career in public service. A true icon and Bay Area leader, Dianne Feinstein's legacy in our state and nation was profound.

Senator Feinstein's Legislative Accomplishments:

- Authored the 1994 Federal Assault Weapons Ban.
- Creating federal coordination of Amber Alerts, the national child abduction warning system.
- Passing the California Desert Protection Act, which protected millions of acres of California desert and created the Death Valley and Joshua Tree national parks.
- Reauthorizing the Violence Against Women Act, to protect women from domestic violence and sexual assault.
- Authoring the 2022 Respect for Marriage Act, to enshrine marriage equality into federal law.



asmdamonconnolly

Following

Message



40 posts

150 followers

145 following

Assemblymember Damon Connolly

100M+

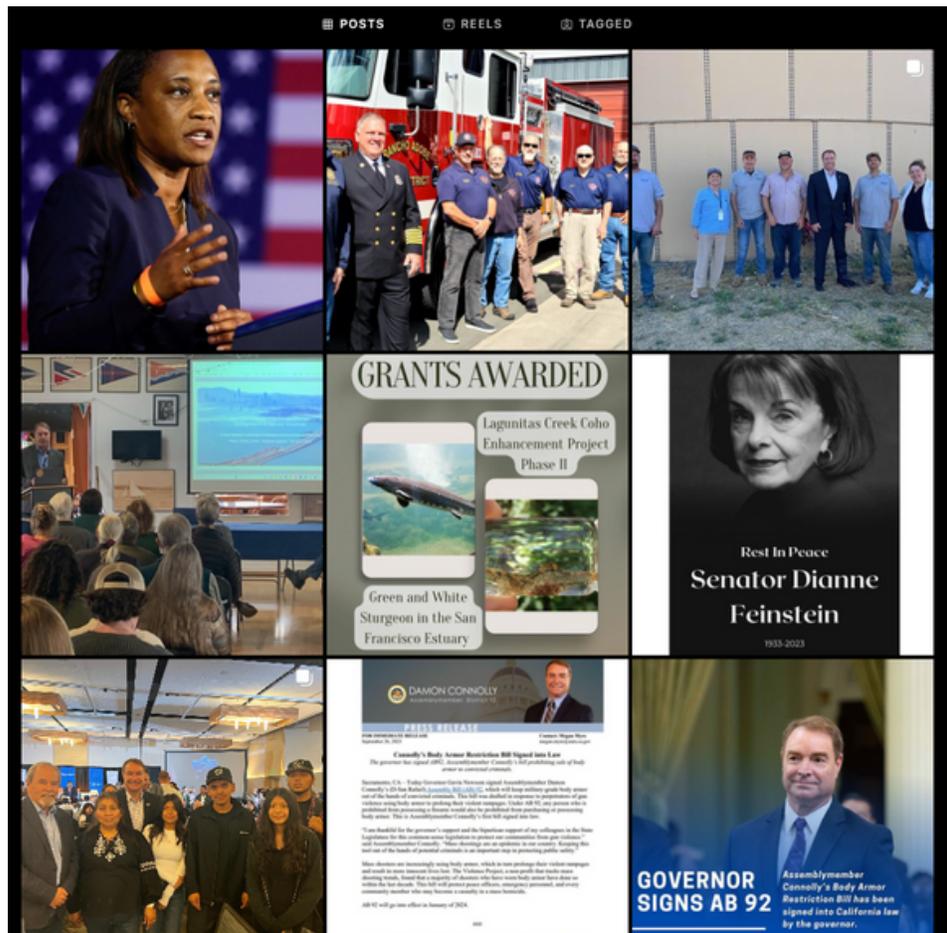
Official legislative Instagram account for CA Assemblymember Damon Connolly #CALeg #AD12

FOLLOW ME ON INSTAGRAM!

@ASMDAMONCONNOLLY

I'm excited to share with you my newest social media page on Instagram! This is an official account that will include important updates and information about the North Bay and my work in Sacramento.

If you are interested in following my official Instagram page, [click here!](#)



As always, my door is open and my staff are available to assist you. Feel free to contact me through my website, or by calling one of my offices.

With gratitude,

Damon

Damon Connolly
Assemblymember, 12th District



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