

DAMON CONNOLLY Assemblymember, District 12

NEWSLETTER

DEAR FRIENDS,

I want to extend my gratitude for your continued support and engagement with my office in both Marin and Sonoma Counties.

This August newsletter, the 20th issue, covers the final month of the 2024 legislative session. I'm proud to be sending a robust bill package to the Governor's desk! As always, I have been holding meetings, hearing from constituents, and spending time in our beautiful district.

I am excited to share these updates with you!



AD 12 UPDATES

GUST REC

UE 20

Bills Heading to the Governor Climate Campaign Business Network #RideWithDamon

Bi-Partisan Softball Game

Trip to Ireland

District Updates

Capitol Updates

HTTPS://A12.ASMDC.ORG/

BILS HEADING TO THE COVENOR

August marks the end of the 2024 legislative session, and ten of my bills have passed both houses of the legislature and are on their way to the Governor's desk to be signed or vetoed within thirty days. My eleventh bill, AB 1790, has already been signed into law! I am extremely proud of this robust bill package that will help protect our environment, improve student health, and more. Here is a summary of the bills we successfully passed to the Governor!



Requires CalTrans to respect local decisions restricting or banning the roadside spraying of pesticides.



AB 8223

Protects endangered wetlands and access to clean drinking water



Improves the **Healthy Soils**

Program



Strengthens the regulations for pesticide use near schools



Requires schools at risk of wildfire to develop a wildfire evacuation plan



AB TTEO

Strengthens protections against sexual harassment at California State Universities

signed into law

BILS HEADING TO THE COVENING



AB 22251 Allows students with

health-related absences to graduate on time if they meet state graduation requirements





Prohibits kids under 16 from riding a class 2 e-bike and requires helmets



Expands the definition of a Community Land Trust



Moves code sections dealing with fairs to Food and Agriculture Code



AB 2000 Improves the Beaver Restoration Program



CLIMATE CAMPAIGN BUSINESS NETWORK

Early this month, I had the opportunity to participate in the Climate Campaign's Business Network event, where we discussed collaborating on clean energy and climate change priorities. At this discussion of best practices for a climate-safe California we also touched on sustainability goals, supporting local microgrids in the face of corporate opposition, and policies that will help our state's businesses thrive in a clean energy future. I greatly appreciated the opportunity to collaborate with these climate leaders on how our state can distribute energy in a way that maximizes benefits to each of our diverse communities and provides reliable, affordable electricity for all.





BI-PARTISAN SOFTBALL GAME

Each year, the California State Legislature hosts a bi-partisan softball game on the Sacramento River Cats baseball field at Sutter Health Park to raise funds for Sacramento's Mustard Seed School, a school for children currently experiencing homelessness. This program, run by Sacramento Loaves and Fishes, provides meals, mental health services, showers, school supplies, and a safe space for vulnerable students to learn and grow. Founded in 1989, this school provides a stable learning environment, survival resources, shelter referrals, medical and dental screenings, and counseling for students and their parents.

I am proud to represent Northern California both on the Assembly floor and on the baseball field while raising money for an excellent cause! Unfortunately team SoCal brought home the win this year with a final score of 14-16, but we raised a total of \$35,000 for the Mustard Seed School.





#RIDEWITHDAMON

This month, I took a car-free trip from my front door in the North Bay, all the way out to my Capitol Office in Sacramento! This was a fun opportunity to explore our transportation options in the community and beyond. From riding my bike alongside Supervisor Mary Sackett, to hopping on the bus at the San Rafael Transit Center, to the Del Norte BART and the final stretch of the Amtrak Capitol Corridor, this journey highlighted the benefits of staving connected to car-free alternatives and public transportation. Keep an eye out for an upcoming video detailing my trip, a legislative update as we approach the end of session, and conversations with local representatives and transportation leaders!







IRELAND

While the Assembly was in recess in July, I had the incredible opportunity to travel to Northern Ireland and my ancestral homeland of the Republic of Ireland as part of the annual Legislative Irish Caucus trip. During our visit, we engaged in meaningful discussions with government officials, business leaders, and community organizations. These conversations centered on key issues such as innovation, renewable energy, and climate change. We met with Belfast Lord Mayor Micky Murray, the First Minister of Northern Ireland Michelle O'Neill, and Irish Prime Minister (Taoiseach) Simon Harris. We also had the opportunity to integrate ourselves into Irish culture, attend community events, and have meetings with a variety of legislators. It was an honor to represent California and AD12 on this trip. This journey provided a unique way to strengthen the longstanding ties between California and Ireland, explore shared interests, and learn from each other's experiences.







DISTRICT UPDATES: SNAPSHOTS

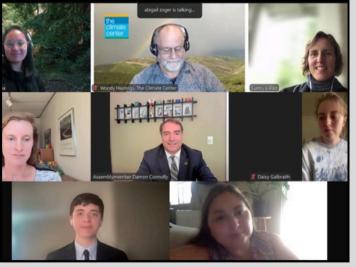
I greatly value my time at home connecting with constituents in AD12. I have had many great opportunities to attend events, tours, and productive meetings with constituents throughout the North Bay in both Marin and Sonoma Counties. Here are some snapshots of some of the meetings and events my office 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 <u>here</u>.



TOURING KISER RANCH AND THE RESTORATION PROJECT IN THE SONOMA BAYLANDS



CELEBRATING STAFF APPRECIATION DAY WITH MARIN COMMUNITY CLINICS



ZOOM CALL WITH SANTA ROSA JUNIOR COLLEGE CLIMATE ACTION NIGHT STUDENTS



TOURING SONOMA STATE UNIVERSITY CAMPUS RESOURCES WITH INTERIM PRESIDENT DR. EMILY CUTRER

CAPITOL UPDATES: SNAPSHOTS

It's always exciting when I have the opportunity to meet with constituents, connect with advocates, and honor leaders on the Assembly floor out in Sacramento! Here are some snapshots of some of the ceremonies, meetings and events my Capitol office 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 <u>here</u>.



DISCUSSING LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES WITH CALPIRG STUDENT ADVOCATES



CALIFORNIA CLEAN ENERGY FUTURE ROUNDTABLE WITH LEGISLATIVE COLLEAGUES AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE US DEPT OF ENERGY



MEETING WITH THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS OF THE NORTH BAY DIVISION OF CALCITIES



DISCUSSING LEGISLATIVE SOLUTIONS TO PROTECT WORKERS WITH UNITED FOOD AND COMMERCIAL WORKERS REPRESENTATIVES

CAPITOL UPDATES:



SIGNING THE FIRST STEEL COLUMN FOR THE NEW CAPITOL ANNEX BUILDING



HONORING AND CELEBRATING OUR DEPARTING ASSEMBLYMEMBERS



MEETING WITH INTERNS FROM MARIN COUNTY BEFORE FLOOR SESSION



ACCEPTING ENVIRONMENTAL CHAMPION AWARD AND CONNECTING WITH CLEANEARTH4KIDS REPRESENTATIVES



HONORING DEPARTING ASSEMBLYMEMBER PHIL TING ON THE ASSEMBLY FLOOR



ASSEMBLY ATTORNEYS GROUP PHOTO

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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