



DAMON CONNOLLY
Assemblymember, District 12

NEWSLETTER

DEAR FRIENDS,

As we begin a new year, I want to extend my gratitude for your continued support and engagement with my office in both Marin and Sonoma Counties. It has been a busy month in the district as we gear up to return to Sacramento in January! I've continued to meet with local residents, work on legislation, and participate in community events.

As always, I have been holding meetings, hearing from constituents, and spending time in our beautiful district. It has been an absolute pleasure to focus my work in the North Bay and spend more time with all of you.

I am excited to share these updates with you!



AD 12 UPDATES

Extraordinary Session

AB 1

ESTM Leadership

Salmon Field Tour

Local Resources

District Updates



EXTRAORDINARY SESSION

On December 2, 2024 the California State Legislature convened in an organizational session to bolster our legal resources to fight back against federal policies that threaten families in our community or reverse our progress on important issues like climate change. The California Legislature convened to allocate \$25 million to a legal defense fund to defend California's investments against President-elect Donald Trump's incoming administration. By allocating funds to preemptively protect federal disaster grants, clean air protections, public safety and more, we can defend the values and freedoms that are key to our great state.

I was proud to renew my oath of office alongside my colleagues, family and local leaders, and welcome our new Assemblymembers as they were sworn in for the 2025-26 legislative session. I am incredibly grateful for the honor of representing AD12 in the California State Assembly for another term.





DAMON CONNOLLY

Assemblymember, District 12

AB 1 INTRODUCED

AB 1

As the State Legislature reconvened on December 2nd, I introduced the very first bill of the 2025 legislative session! A reintroduction of my wildfire insurance bill from last year, AB 1 will strengthen the Safer from Wildfires program to provide as much relief as possible to residents who are hardening their homes against wildfires. I am excited to reintroduce this bill with the co-authorship of the Speaker of the Assembly Robert Rivas, and the Assembly Insurance Committee Chair, Assemblymember Lisa Calderon.

AB 1 requires the California Department of Insurance to review the Safer from Wildfires regulations every five years, and consider if additional building hardening measures and community level wildfire mitigation programs should be included in the program. With the current state of our insurance market, it is critical that we are supporting homeowners across California that are taking responsible steps to harden their home. This legislation will help consumers save money on their insurance bills while simultaneously strengthening our communities against the risk of wildfire.

The current state of the insurance market is leaving thousands of families without coverage and causing rates to rise even in areas that are low risk for wildfires and natural disasters, and the Safer from Wildfires program is the only avenue open to consumers to receive direct insurance discounts for hardening their homes and neighborhoods. As new and safer building materials come to market and wildfire prevention methods evolve, it is important that we periodically revisit the regulations to ensure that as much relief as possible is being offered to community members who are hardening their homes against wildfire.

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON

Environmental Safety **& TOXIC MATERIALS**



Chair

ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY AND TOXIC MATERIALS COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP

Late last week, I was appointed as chair of the Assembly Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials Committee by Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas. The Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials Committee presides over legislation related to toxic substances and hazardous materials, hazardous waste regulation, drinking water safety, and pesticides.

I am honored that Speaker Rivas has entrusted me with chairmanship of the Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials Committee, and the opportunity to take leadership on critical issues that directly impact communities in the North Bay and across the state. I look forward to collaborating with my fellow committee members to address statewide challenges, ensure accountability, and drive positive progress.

Serving on the Assembly Committee on Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials for the 2023-24 legislative session, I am familiar with voting on legislation related to protecting our environment and ensuring the health and safety of our communities. Our AD12 community values are a testament to the importance of environmental stewardship, and I am excited to continue to advance policies that ensure a safer, more sustainable future. The committee's work is critical in addressing the challenges posed by climate change, pollution, and the safety of consumer products, and I am honored and excited to take on this leadership role.



SALMON FIELD TOUR

This month, I had the opportunity to join CalTrout for a salmon field tour! We visited the San Geronimo commons, where Trout Unlimited are working to restore the stream's habitats and monitor endangered coho and steelhead populations. We also visited Devil's Gulch Trail, another amazing opportunity to visit habitat and observe fish. It was fantastic to get out in the field and check out these inspiring areas! A big thank you to CalTrout for the tour and for all of their restoration work across California.



LOCAL RESOURCES

With the incoming federal administration, we hear the concerns of our community members. Like myself, my wife and two daughters are still processing the results of the election and what it means for the future. I know a lot of people in our community are concerned and feeling uncertain about what is to come.

In the State Legislature, our responsibility is to protect the progress we've made on issues like clean vehicle standards, women's reproductive healthcare, immigration, and emergency wildfire funding. My staff and I are already getting in contact with local nonprofits, legal aid organizations, and advocates to best determine how we can help residents who are uncertain about the future and what to do next.

As we start a new year, take care of yourself, check in with others, ask for help, and look to our local resources for support.



NAMI Marin County & NAMI Sonoma County provide resources and advocacy for those struggling with their mental health

Crisis Line: 988

(415) 444-0480

(800) 950-6264



Legal Aid of Marin & Legal Aid of Sonoma provide low income and vulnerable residents with access to high quality, effective legal services.

(628) 253-575

(707) 542-1290



Canal Alliance provides affordable and comprehensive immigration legal services in Marin County.

(415) 306-0437



The Multicultural Center of Marin provides resources to prepare community members to assert their rights.

(415) 526-2486



Marin Housing Authority & Marin Health and Human Services assist residents in finding affordable housing.

(415) 491-2525



Latino Service Providers provides a variety of resources to Latinx residents in Sonoma County.

(707) 837-9577



Center for Domestic Peace provides refuge, resources, and support for those experiencing domestic violence.

(415) 924-6616



Community Action Marin provides services to help residents meet basic needs.

(415) 526-7500



Community Action Partnership Sonoma County provides multi-generational support for families.

(707) 544-6911

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 [here](#).



JOINED THE ROTARY CLUB OF PETALUMA FOR LUNCH AND A LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



JOINED MAYOR GERARD GUIDICE FOR A TOUR OF ROHNERT PARK



TOURED THE TRADITIONAL MEDICINALS FACTORY IN SEBASTOPOL



SPOKE ABOUT ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP AND COMMUNITY SERVICE WITH MILL VALLEY PACK 133



JOINED THE SONOMA COUNTY SHERIFFS OFFICE FOR THE PENNGROVE HOLIDAY PARADE OF LIGHTS



SPOKE AT THE SOUTHERN SONOMA DEMS HOLIDAY PARTY

DISTRICT UPDATES:

CONTINUED



CELEBRATED PHASE ONE OF THE HEARN COMMUNITY HUB PROJECT WITH SONOMA LIBRARY AND THE CITY OF SANTA ROSA



MET WITH MARIN PARENTS AND STUDENTS TO DISCUSS CONCERNS FACING TRANSGENDER STUDENTS



ENJOYED A HOLIDAY DINNER WITH MARIN LATINO LEADERS



JOINED SUSTAINABLE SAN RAFAEL FOR A HOLIDAY PARTY



ATTENDED THE MARIN CITY HEALTH AND WELLNESS CENTER'S WINTER GALA



HELPED OUT AT THE SANTA ROSA FIRE FIGHTERS LOCAL 1401 TOY DRIVE AND PANCAKE BREAKFAST

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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