



# 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 July newsletter, the 19th issue, covers this past month serving as the North Bay's State Assemblymember. July was a busy month both in Sacramento and in AD12!

I'm proud to report that my bills are continuing to move through the Senate, and one has even been signed into law! As always, I have been holding meetings, hearing from constituents, and spending time in our beautiful district, and I am excited to share these updates with you!



## **AD 12 UPDATES**

**Bill Updates**

**AB 1790 Signed into Law**

**Committee Appointment**

**Climate Bond Signed**

**Fourth of July**

**District Updates**

# BILL UPDATES

As we approach the end of the 2024 legislative session, which concludes on August 31, every bill must pass out of the State Legislature to be considered by the Governor and signed or vetoed by the end of the year. In fact, one of my bills has already been signed by the Governor! The rest of my bills are in the Senate Appropriations Committee, and will be considered based on their fiscal impact when the State Legislature returns from recess. The following bills are currently in the Senate Appropriations Committee:



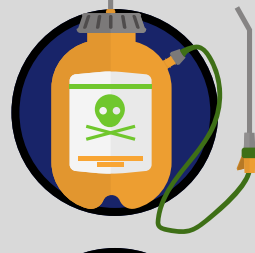
AB 2416 expands the Safer From Wildfires Program



AB 2143 moves code sections dealing with fairs to Food and Agriculture Code



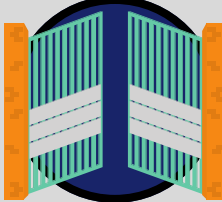
AB 2251 allows schools to exempt students with health related absences from additional graduation requirements



AB 1864 strengthens the regulations for pesticide use near schools



AB 99 restricts the use of RoundUp on state highways



AB 2149, also known as Alex's Law, establishes specific standards for large vehicular gates



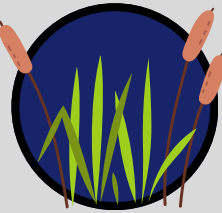
AB 2968 requires wildfire evacuation plans in schools



AB 1778 prohibits individuals under 16 from riding a class 2 e-bike



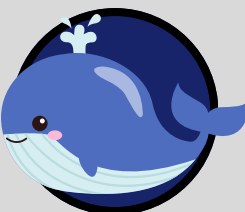
AB 2734 improves the Healthy Soils Program



AB 828 protects endangered wetlands and access to clean drinking water



AB 2897 expands the definition of a Community Land Trust



AB 2298, joint authored with Asm. Hart and Asm. Bennett, expands the Protecting Blue Whales and Blue Skies program



AB 2196 improves the Beaver Restoration Program



AB 1926 expands healthcare coverage for metabolic disorders



# AB 1790 *signed* INTO LAW

Early this month Governor Gavin Newsom signed Assembly Bill (AB) 1790, codifying strengthened protections against sexual harassment at California State University (CSU) campuses into California law. AB 1790 is a part of the “A Call to Action” legislative package, targeting sex discrimination and sexual harassment in California’s higher education institutions, and is the first of my bills to be signed by the Governor in the 2024 legislative session. AB 1790 will require the CSU system to strengthen protections against sexual harassment and update their policies regarding how the Universities process sexual harassment complaints and allegations.

In a 2022 report conducted by the California State Auditor assessing the CSU’s handling of sexual harassment complaints against employees, the Auditor’s office determined that some allegations of sexual harassment had not been adequately or consistently addressed.

AB 1790 implements the recommendations outlined by the California State Auditor in their report on the California State University’s sexual harassment policies. AB 1790 will enforce standardized guidelines for all CSU formal investigations into allegations of sexual harassment to ensure that survivors are heard, perpetrators are held accountable, and our educational institutions uphold the highest standards of justice and support. By strengthening protections against sexual assault and sexual harassment, we can make our California State Universities safer for students and faculty and make sure that allegations of sexual harassment are not wrongfully dismissed.



# APPOINTMENT TO THE ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

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Before the Legislature went into recess I was appointed to the Assembly Committee on Natural Resources, whose jurisdiction encompasses air quality, climate change, energy efficiency, renewable energy, the California Environmental Quality Act, coastal protection, forestry, land conservation, oil spills, solid waste and recycling. As a passionate environmentalist and climate advocate, I am looking forward to joining my legislative colleagues who are already doing great work in this committee. I am committed to advocating for sustainable practices of environmental stewardship to help ensure that our policies align with California's clean energy goals and environmental resilience.

Through my experience as chair of the Assembly Select Committee on Wildfire Prevention, sitting on the Assembly Committee on Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials and serving as the vice chair of the Joint Legislative Committee on Climate Change Policies, I am well-versed in tackling climate issues through the legislative process. Natural resources issues encompass legislation relating to environmental quality and resources occurring in our environment, and informational hearings entail assessments of environmental proposals.

California's natural resources are abundant, including wind power, water resources, hydropower, wetlands and solar energy. I am looking forward to collaborating with legislative colleagues and constituents alike through my appointment to the Assembly Natural Resources Committee, and look forward to evaluating and voting on legislation that will impact California's natural resources for generations to come.



## LEGISLATURE PASSES GENERATIONAL CLIMATE BOND

The California State Legislature passed Senate Bill (SB) 867, a once-in-a-generation \$10 billion climate bond known as the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024, which is now eligible to appear on the November 8, 2024 General Election ballot. I had the opportunity to serve on the State Assembly Climate Bond Working Group, collaborating with legislative colleagues to craft the wildfire and nature based solutions provisions of the bond.

The Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024 finances projects for safe drinking water, drought, flood, and water resilience, wildfire and forest resilience, coastal resilience, extreme heat mitigation, biodiversity and nature-based climate solutions, climate-smart, sustainable, and resilient farms, ranches, and working lands, park creation and outdoor access, and clean air programs. Funding includes:

- \$3.8 billion For Safe Drinking Water, Drought, Flood, and Water Resilience.
- \$1.5 billion for Wildfire and Forest Resilience.
- \$1.2 billion for Sea-Level Rise and Coastal Resilience.
- \$450 million for Extreme Heat Mitigation.
- \$1.2 billion for Protecting Biodiversity and Promoting Natural Solutions.
- \$300 million for Climate Resilient Farms, Ranches and Working Lands.
- \$700 million for Parks and Outdoor Access.
- \$850 million for Cleaner Air through Reliable Clean Energy Solution.

The Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024 and the \$10 billion California Public Education Facilities Bond Measure passed out of the State Legislature and will be subject to voter's approval on the November 8, 2024 General Election ballot.



## FOURTH OF JULY

I had a great time celebrating the Fourth of July at the Novato and Larkspur-Corte Madera parades, celebrating Independence Day alongside our AD12 community. It was a pleasure to participate in the festivities and honor the founding of our nation.



# DISTRICT UPDATES:

## SNAPSHOTS

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While the State Legislature was in recess throughout the month of July, I have 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](#).



**AWARDING COMMUNITY LEADERS AT THE SONOMA COUNTY FARM BUREAU LOVE OF THE LAND CELEBRATION**



**SPEAKING ALONGSIDE SPEAKER EMIRATA PELOSI AT THE COMMEMORATION OF THE GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE SUICIDE NET**



**BREAKFAST SPEECH TO THE ROHNERT PARK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**



**ROUNDTABLE WITH SENATE PRO TEM MIKE MCGUIRE AND OTHER LOCAL BAY AREA LEADERS**

# DISTRICT UPDATES

## CONTINUED

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DISCUSSING POLICY CAREERS WITH BAY AREA COUNCIL INTERNS



TOURING AND PROVIDING REMARKS AT THE TEMELEK SOCIAL CLUB IN SONOMA COUNTY



VISITING THE WEST COUNTY HEALTH CENTER IN SEBASTOPOL WITH SANTA ROSA CITY COUNCILMEMBER CHRIS ROGERS



SPEAKING AT THE CALIFORNIA ALLIANCE FOR JOBS INFRASTRUCTURE RECEPTION IN SONOMA COUNTY

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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