



The 47th Flyer

News for California's 47th Congressional District
from Congressman Alan Lowenthal



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February 14, 2014

The full faith and credit of the United States would have been in jeopardy after February 27 if both the House and Senate did not agree to raise the debt ceiling. According to U.S. Treasury Secretary Jack Lew, this would have devastating effects on our economy, as it would have had resulted in our country being unable to pay its bills on time.

Thankfully, the House voted Tuesday to responsibly raise the debt ceiling without adding any last minute policy riders – meaning we voted on a proposal that dealt with the issue at hand—the debt ceiling—with “no strings attached.” To help ensure that we maintain the full faith and credit of the United States, I voted “yes.” The legislation passed 221 to 201.

On The Hill

This week, I had planned to vote “no” on the ironically misnamed Consumer Financial Protection Safety and Soundness Improvement Act, which if passed, would have actually harmed consumer protections and sought to undermine and defund the highly effective Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. Thankfully the proposed legislation was pulled for the time being.

The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau is a landmark agency created by the Dodd-Frank Act to oversee consumer financial markets, and it is the only financial regulator focused exclusively on consumer protection. The Bureau, for example, has refunded more than \$3 billion to nearly 10 million consumers and U.S. military service members whom have experienced financial or consumer fraud. It has also begun to achieve resolution for over 269,000 consumer complaints received through its website.

The Bureau is critical in upholding strong consumer protections, and I will continue to ensure it is maintained.

In The 47th District

It is my distinct honor and privilege to announce the 47th District nominations for the U.S. Service Academy. Everyone in the 47th District can be proud that we have so many talented, high-achieving students who wish to serve our nation as future leaders of the armed forces and merchant marine.

Entrance to The US Military, Navy, Air Force and Merchant Marine service academies requires nomination by a Member of Congress or the Vice-President. Acceptance at an Academy involves at least a five-year obligation to the Service after four years at the Academy. Appointments in the 47th District are very competitive, and the members of my Service Academy

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Was it wise for Congress to vote on a clean debt ceiling proposal with no strings attached?

Yes - When it comes to the full faith and credit of the United States, Congress should focus solely on being able to pay its bills on time

Maybe - Congress still had two more weeks to debate the issue; they should have waited a little longer to weigh the options

No - The debt ceiling proposal should have been tied to the defunding or consolidation of other government programs, such as the Affordable Care Act.

I do not know

[If you have a problem, click here to open survey in a new window](#)

Nomination Panel – composed of military veterans and academy graduates – were instrumental in the interview and selection process.

Final decisions will be made by the U.S. Military, Naval, Air Force, and Merchant Marine Academies as they consider each of these talented and dedicated nominees from the 47th District for admission.

The nominees are:

United States Military Academy at West Point, New York

Madeline Carlson	Long Beach	California Academy of Mathematics and Science
Karen Kim	Cypress	Los Alamitos High School
Vincent O'Reilly	Long Beach	Los Alamitos High School

United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, Maryland

Andrew Chang	Garden Grove	Pacifica High School
Armand de Armas	Long Beach	Mater Dei High School
Natalie de Leon	Cypress	St. Joseph High School
Haley Fessenden	Los Alamitos	Los Alamitos High School
Austin Geller	Los Alamitos	Los Alamitos High School
John Huson	Long Beach	Long Beach Polytechnic High School
Robert Niscior	Cypress	Oxford Academy
Matthew Nulk	Cypress	Servite High School
Evan Schmitz	Long Beach	Woodrow Wilson High School
Emmanuel Tanap	Long Beach	Lakewood High School

United States Air Force Academy at Colorado Springs, Colorado

Kathleen Ahearn	Long Beach	California Academy of Mathematics and
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		Science
Brett Baldwin	Long Beach	St. John Bosco High School
Olivia Bancroft	Buena Park	Tustin High School
Andrew Chaidez	Cypress	Los Alamitos High School
Paul Dinh	Garden Grove	Buena Park High School
James Martin	Long Beach	Millikan High School
Merrick Nguyen	Garden Grove	Westminster High School
Moises Orozco	Long Beach	Connections Academy High School
Aileen Pham	Westminster	Westminster High School
Nicolas Seto	Garden Grove	Pacifica High School

I wish all of the nominees the best of luck as they await acceptance letters from the academies!

Students who reside in the 47th Congressional district and are interested in attending a Service Academy in the future can get more information and nomination application forms on my website, <http://lowenthal.house.gov/constituent-services/service-academy-nominations.htm>.

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“Congressional Budget Office (CBO)”

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Last Week’s Poll

Should climate change policy play a larger role in the conservation and preservation of public lands?

58.6% Yes - It is critical for us to address climate change now so as to protect public lands for future generations

4.3% Maybe - Climate change policy is good for public lands, but it will not affect

public lands in our lifetime
31.4% No - Climate change policy will hurt our public lands
5.7% I don't know

Thank you,



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