



The 47th Flyer

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



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April 7, 2015

California Leads the Way Forward, Again

While many Members of Congress remain wary of the costs of reducing climate change pollution, they need look no further than the largest state economy in our nation for a perfect example of how to take action.

Atmospheric carbon dioxide concentrations have reached their highest levels in at [least 800,000 years](#). At the same time, Californians have seized the opportunity to increase our use of renewable energy and clean technology, create green jobs, and grow our economy all while reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

When I was in the California State Senate, we ushered in a new era of environmental protection and economic growth by passing AB 32, the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006.

That historic legislation has set California on a path to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by 2020. California is meeting those emission reduction goals, and the [economy is growing](#). Now, California has the opportunity to again lead the United States in innovative climate change legislation by setting strong greenhouse gas reduction goals through 2050.

Last month, California State Senators proposed bold and sweeping amendments to AB 32 which would cut California's petroleum use in half and vastly expand renewable energy sources by 2030. By 2050, the goal is to bring net greenhouse gas emissions down 80 percent below 1990 levels. Yes, you read that correctly. The goal is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 80 percent.

[Read more of this article by clicking here.](#)

On The Hill

Iran Nuclear Negotiations

One of the most pressing foreign policy issues of our time is the nuclear ambitions of Iran and keeping Iran from having nuclear weapons is the preeminent goal of the U.S.

While I believe that a diplomatic solution is the best policy, I want to be clear on my position: Iran must never develop nuclear weapons.

This week, President Obama released [the framework of a deal](#) in the P5+1 (U.S., plus Britain, Germany, France, Russia, and China) negotiations with Iran that, if

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This week, the P5+1 nations agreed to a framework with Iran to limit enrichment of uranium; to reduce significantly the number of centrifuges; to convert its facilities at Fordow to only be used for peaceful purposes; and, to agree to regular inspections of all of Iran's nuclear facilities. It does not yet spell out the final timeframe for sanction relief. What do you think?

I support the framework and believe it is a good deal for the United States and our allies, and will prevent Iran from getting the bomb. I have misgivings about provisions in the framework, but believe it is better than the alternative, which is likely to be another war in the Middle East. I have serious concerns about provisions in the framework and think the United States should increase sanctions and force Iran to give up more of its nuclear enrichment activities. I oppose the framework and think it will allow

implemented, would seriously cut off Iran's ability to develop enough fissionable material to create a bomb for a minimum of 10 years with inspection and transparency lasting up to 25 years.

I think the framework is an amazing first step and the President needs to be recognized for his outstanding leadership. Before negotiations are finalized technical details will have to be worked out, as well as a timeframe for sanction relief.

Under the framework, Iran has agreed to slash the number of centrifuges it has (a tool needed to create fissionable material) from 19,000 to 6,000, with 5,000 of these being utilized solely to enrich uranium for the Natanz nuclear power facility. Iran has agreed not to enrich uranium above 3.67 percent for 15 years (80 percent enrichment is needed for a weapon—less than 5 percent is used for nuclear power reactors). Iran will be allowed to pursue research and development on more advanced centrifuge technology, which produces uranium at a more efficient rate, but it will not be allowed to create any new enrichment facilities for 15 years.

Moreover, inspections and transparency shall last for up to 25 years. This is a good first step toward a long-term agreement that constrains Iran's nuclear infrastructure so that Iran has no pathway to a bomb. Over the next several months, I look forward to seeing the technical details of a final plan as they are developed by the U.S., Iran, and other nations, as well as a timeframe for sanction relief.

In The 47th District

2015 Congressional District Art Competition

Each spring, a nation-wide high school arts competition is sponsored by the Members of the U.S. House of Representatives. The Congressional Art Competition is an opportunity to recognize and encourage the artistic talent in the nation, as well as in our congressional district.

The Congressional Art Competition is open to all high school students in the 47th District. The over-all winner of our district's competition will be displayed for one year in the U.S. Capitol along with other winners from around the nation. First place winners also get to travel to Washington, D.C., for an awards ceremony. Second-place recipients will have their artwork hang in my Washington, D.C. office for a year, and the third-place recipient artwork will hang in my District Office for a year.

2015 HIGH SCHOOL
CONGRESSIONAL ART COMPETITION
“Through the Eyes of an Artist”
presented by
CONGRESSMAN ALAN LOWENTHAL



Submissions Due By: Monday, April 20, 2015

Art works entered in the contest may be up to 28 inches by 28 inches (including the frame) by up to 4 inches in depth (and cannot weigh more than 15 pounds). The art work may be: paintings - including oil, acrylics, and watercolor; drawings - including

Iran to remain a nuclear state, give the regime greater resources to support terror and spark a nuclear arms race in the Middle East.

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pastels, colored pencil, pencil, charcoal, ink, and markers; collage; prints - including lithographs, silkscreen, and block prints; mixed media; computer generated art; and, photography.

All entries must be an original in concept, design and execution.

Visit my [Congressional Art Competition web page](#) for addition details and a submission form. Submissions are due by April 20, 2015.

The Congressional Art Competition began in 1982 to provide an opportunity for members of Congress to encourage and recognize the artistic talents of their young constituents. Since then, over 650,000 high school students have been involved with the nationwide competition.

Autism Awareness Day And Month

Nations throughout the world dedicate the month of April to raising awareness about autism. Each year, the Light It Up Blue campaign recognizes April 2, World Autism Awareness Day, by bathing iconic world landmarks like Empire State Building and Rio De Janerio's Christ The Redeemer statue in blue light. In addition to celebrations recognizing the contributions and talents of those with autism, hundreds of organizations use World Autism Awareness Day to take action by creating awareness, raising funds, and encouraging early diagnosis.

One of these groups is Orange County Autism (OCA), a non-profit organization serving children and families affected by autism and related disorders. Its main goal is to offer families and children suffering from the disorder an opportunity to celebrate as a community in a safe and nurturing environment. OCA joined the global community on this year's World Autism Awareness Day by helping to light up the Garden Grove Clock Tower in blue light.

OCA is also inviting the community to attend the group's Annual OC Autism Carnival Party on Saturday, April 11, from 11am – 2pm at the Garden Grove United Methodist Church located at 12741 Main St. in Garden Grove. The event is meant to give children and families affected by autism a chance to celebrate Autism Awareness Month, while also raising awareness and providing useful information to the public on the need for early autism diagnosis and intervention.

Congress U

The Journal

The official record of the proceedings of the House and Senate is called the Journal, which records the actions taken in each chamber on each legislative day. However, unlike the Congressional Record, it does not include the substantially verbatim report of actions on the floor such as speeches, debates, and statements.

The Journal records every motion made on the floor and the result of every vote.

While in session, the House proceedings are recorded in note form by a Journal Clerk at the floor dais in a large book called the "Journal Minute Book". Another Journal Clerk produces a manuscript of the actions in more detail by computer.

The final, complete daily manuscript is proofed and presented to the Parliamentarians for review, and then, approved by the Speaker, prior to the next legislative day. Approval of the Journal, by the Speaker, is the first order of business of each legislative day.

While the actual daily journal text is not available online, very similar information, called 'floor proceedings,' is compiled by the House Clerk's office. The compilation

covering the most recent legislative day can be viewed by [clicking here](#).

At the close of each session of a Congress, the Journal is published in bound, hard copy form. The Journal has a limited distribution, pursuant to the provisions of Section 713, Title 44, United States Code, which includes all Members of Congress. It is not a document that can be purchased in hardcopy from the Government Printing Office by the public, but each edition can be [viewed online at the GPO website](#).

Last Week's Poll

The Affordable Care Act (ACA) turned five years old this week. It has helped reduce the number of uninsured Americans to the lowest level in 40 years. How has the ACA impacted you?

- 27.9% -- Very positively
- 17.1% -- Very little impact
- 30.7% -- Very negatively
- 24.3% -- No impact whatsoever

Thank you,



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