



The 47th Flyer

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



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May 30, 2014

This was an emotional week for Americans. The Isla Vista shooting last Friday was a powerful reminder of the fragility of human life and the unpredictable nature of gun violence in our communities. While a senseless tragedy, I hope it will serve as a wake-up call for Congress to finally enact policies that put a stop to the gun violence that is plaguing communities across the nation.

My heart aches for the families and friends affected by the senseless massacre in Isla Vista.

It is astonishing to me that Congress has refused to address the growing issue of gun violence in our society, especially as we experience tragedy after tragedy. As I have said again and again, gun violence is a public health issue.

We must also prevent individuals who are a danger to themselves from owning weapons, and we must have an honest discussion on the balance between Second Amendment rights and public safety. At the very least, I believe that Republicans and Democrats can both agree that we must focus on improving our mental health system.

In The 47th District

Investing in Manufacturing Communities Partnership

On Wednesday, Secretary of Commerce Penny Pritzker designated Southern California as one of the 12 Manufacturing Communities, as part of the Investing in Manufacturing Communities Partnership (IMCP) initiative. This designation recognizes the industrious and innovative spirit of Southern California and will bring important resources to our vibrant regional economy.

The Southern California manufacturing community is as vibrant as it is diverse. I am thankful that Secretary Pritzker recognizes the ongoing contributions they make to our regional community.

Learn more about the IMCP by visiting <http://1.usa.gov/1rlxPeW>

LAPD Gun Buyback On May 31st

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti and the city's Office of Gang Reduction and Youth Development recently announced an anonymous gun buyback program for our region. In an effort to reduce gun violence in our region, Ralph's Grocery Store gift cards will be offered to those who turn in their firearms. This is a worry-free program, with no questions asked and no

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Do you think Congress should enact a National Ocean Policy?

Yes - It is critical for the protection and maintenance of the many uses of our oceans

Maybe - A National Ocean Policy is critical, but States should decide their ocean policies

No - A National Ocean Policy is an overreach of the federal government, and it will hurt our economy

I do not know

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

repercussions.

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti
GANG REDUCTION & YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

**ANONYMOUS
GUN BUYBACK**

**TURN IN YOUR GUNS
TO RECEIVE A RALPH'S GIFT CARD!**

(While supplies last)

UP TO \$100 GIFT CARD
FOR HANDGUNS, SHOTGUNS
& RIFLES

UP TO \$200 GIFT CARD
FOR ASSAULT WEAPONS AS CLASSIFIED
IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

QUANTITIES OF THE GIFT CARDS ARE LIMITED & SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY
We reserve the right to limit the number of gift cards an individual can receive,
regardless of the amount of firearms surrendered.

Over the years, this buyback has taken nearly 12,000 guns off the street. The gift card amount exchanged per firearm is \$200 for assault weapons and up to \$100 for handguns, rifles, and shotguns.

People can surrender their firearms between 8:00 AM and 3:00 PM on May 31st at four locations:

Central Los Angeles

Los Angeles Sports Arena
3939 South Figueroa Street
Los Angeles, CA 90037

West Los Angeles

Parking Lot
2379 West Washington Blvd
Los Angeles, CA 90018

South Los Angeles

Park & Ride Parking Lot
1300 West PCH
Wilmington, CA 90744

Valley

Van Nuys Masonic Temple
14750 Sherman Way
Van Nuys, CA 91405

For Maya Angelou

This week, the world lost a poet, a leader, and a timeless icon.

Maya Angelou's words have pushed the boundaries of our culture and society, made us look inside our own characters, and helped us cherish and celebrate the spirit of strength and love. Having grown up during the Civil Rights Movement, it was such a joy to have seen her involvement with the cause for civil rights and equality for all. I will never forget her prose and her endless determination that was conveyed so beautifully through poetry.



On The Hill

The Case for a National Ocean Policy

This week, the House of Representatives voted on the annual Commerce, Justice, and Science (CJS) Appropriations Bill, which distributed previously-authorized funding to various federal government agencies and their programs. The CJS bill is one of the twelve appropriations bills that the House votes on.

The CJS bill contained many amendments, or revisions, that altered some of the bill's provisions. Some were good and some were bad. One of the bad amendments, which unfortunately passed, would make no funds available for the establishment of a National Ocean Policy (NOP). Such a policy would set-up a commission to ensure the responsible use of the oceans that surround our nation.

I believe the 47th District is an area that perfectly highlights the need for ocean coordination and information sharing between local, state, and federal governments, the military, ports, carriers, energy developers, recreational users, and many other stakeholders. A NOP would help us achieve this.

The Port of Long Beach is the second busiest port in the U.S., moving \$140 billion in goods and supporting 1.4 million jobs in the U.S.; offshore oil platforms extract crude oil in San Pedro Bay less than a mile from Long Beach's city center; San Clemente Island in our district has a Navy training ground and a ship-to-shore firing range; nearby waters are home to seabirds, fisheries, and migrating whales; and, sea level rise and extreme weather threaten neighborhoods and businesses all along the district and the entire coast of California .

These ocean uses are all interwoven and it doesn't make sense to draft policy regarding them on an ad-hoc, case-by-case basis or without all of the stakeholders participating. Simply, we need smart ocean planning and coordination.

For those reasons, I believe that the amendment offered was counterproductive. Not only would it prohibit NOP coordination and information sharing between federal and state agencies, tribes, and local governments, but it would force us back to the inefficient, costly, and overly bureaucratic methods previously in place.

The country and our district need a comprehensive approach to our ocean

resources, which the NOP provides. Hopefully, we will soon see the establishment of such a policy.

Asian Pacific American Heritage Month

May is Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. I am proud to join with thousands of people in my district and millions across our country in celebration. The recognition of this month reminds us of the courage and bravery with which millions of Asian Pacific Americans made the journey to the United States to build a better life for themselves and their children.

This week, I spoke on the House floor to honor this important month.



Please [click here](#) or on the image above to view my speech.

A Visit from Cypress High School Students

Earlier this week, on the steps of the United States Capitol, I met with students from Cypress High School who were visiting Washington, D.C. We discussed everything from comprehensive immigration reform and student loans to bipartisanship and legislative procedure. It was such a joy to hear how informed and interested they were in the political process. As a former professor, it was walk down memory lane for me to get to speak to students!



Congress U

"Acting Chairman of the House and Speaker Pro Tempore"

When the House is in session and voting, there is always a Member of Congress who presides, or oversees, the House floor. While this person is usually the Speaker of the House, there are times when the Speaker is unavailable to manage the time on the floor.

This is why there are designated Acting Chairmen, Acting Chairwomen, as well as a Speaker Pro Tempore, to fill-in for the Speaker.

Typically, when the House is voting for hours on end, the Acting Chairperson and Speaker Pro Tempore, the second highest position in the House, will take turns presiding over the House. Even though they are the ones who control the time on the House floor, they are still able to cast their vote when the other Members of Congress do so.

Last Week's Poll

Do you think oil and gas companies must be held to higher standards when their drilling activities take place on public lands as opposed to drilling activities on private land?

65.2% Yes - It is critical for the protection of our public lands and the safety of our communities

4.3% Maybe - These companies should only be regulated on public lands where endangered species and sensitive habitats are present

27.2% No - These companies are already regulated enough

3.3% I do not know

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Alan Lowenthal".

Alan Lowenthal
Member of Congress

Washington, D.C. Office

515 Cannon
House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-7924
Hours: M-F 9-5:30pm

Long Beach District Office

100 W. Broadway
Long Beach, CA 90802
West Tower Suite 600
Phone: (562) 436-3828
Fax: (562) 437-6434

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