



The 47th Flyer

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



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June 28, 2014

It was another big week here in Washington, D.C. – from critical Supreme Court rulings and congressional legislation to art recognitions and monthly designations. I am pleased to share with you this week's update from my work in Congress.

In The 47th District

June is LGBT Pride Month

The month of June marks LGBT Pride Month – a time for all of us to stand up and remember the struggle for inclusion and the steps we are taking together to promote equality today, tomorrow, and for generations to come. Please take a moment to watch a short video of my thoughts on this important month by [clicking here](#) or on the image below:



In the News – Charter Local Edition

Last week, I had the pleasure of appearing on Charter Local Edition last week to talk about immigration reform and foreign affairs. To watch the clip of my interview, please [click here](#) or on the image below:

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Do you think police officers need a warrant to search Americans' cell phones?

Yes - It protects the privacy of all Americans

Maybe - Police officers should not have to obtain a warrant for American's who have previously committed crimes

No - Police officers should always be able to access cell phone data

I do not know

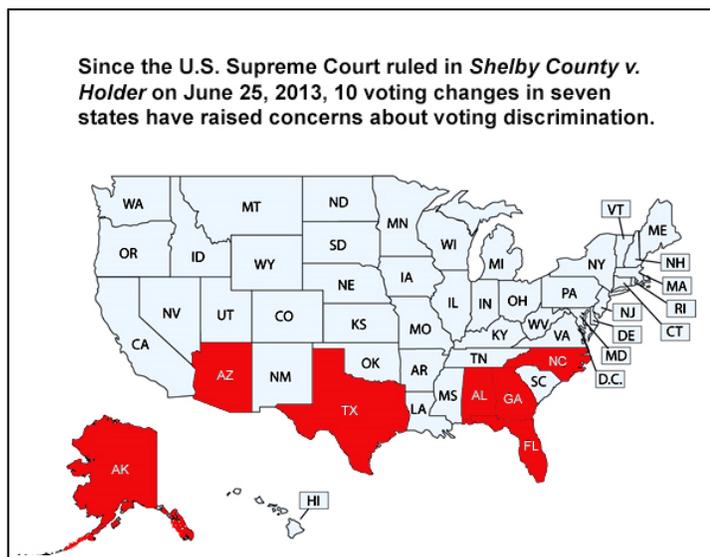
[If you have a problem, click here to open survey in a new window](#)



On The Hill

Some Thoughts on the Supreme Court

This Wednesday was the one-year anniversary of the Supreme Court's decision to strike down a critical anti-discrimination section of the Voting Rights Act. Congress must rededicate itself to righting this wrong.



However, the Supreme Court took a strong stand on Wednesday for the privacy of all Americans, as they ruled that police officers must obtain a warrant to access cellphone data. I agree with what Justice Roberts said about the decision to limit police searches of cellphones: "Modern cell phones are not just another technological convenience. With all they contain and all they may reveal, they hold for many Americans the privacies of life."

My Amendment to Help Protect Our Oceans

The 47th District provides a perfect example of the need for coordination and information sharing between local, state, and federal governments that deal with ocean issues— including our offshore energy management agencies, the military, our ports, ocean carriers, energy developers, recreational users, and other stakeholders.

For example, the Port of Long Beach is the second busiest port in the U.S., moving \$140 billion in goods, supporting 1.4 million jobs in the U.S; and offshore oil platforms extract crude oil in San Pedro Bay less than a mile from my front door.

These types of significant ocean uses are interconnected and it doesn't make sense to address them on a case-by-case basis without all of the stakeholders participating – we need smart ocean planning and coordination.

The country and my district need a comprehensive approach to our ocean resources.

This is why, earlier this week, I introduced an amendment to H.R.4899 that would have protected commonsense ocean planning that helps maintain the health of our ocean communities, economy, and environment.



Please [click here](#) or the image above to watch my introductory remarks on the House floor

Unfortunately, my amendment failed 232-179. I then voted “no” on the final passage of H.R.4899, which passed 229-185.

Art Competition Winner Comes to D.C.

Each year, I hold a Congressional Arts Competition, which 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. The exhibit in Washington will also include artwork from other contest winners nation-wide.

This year, I am proud to announce the first-place winner, Alepsis Hernandez, who submitted “Freedom For All.”



Here I am with Alepsis and her mother at the Cannon Tunnel (group picture on left), where her artwork "Freedom For All," pictured on right, is currently displayed:

“Committee of the Whole”

The “Committee of the Whole” is shorthand for “Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.” It is a way for the House to do business easier, with a smaller quorum (or number of Members present on the House floor). This parliamentary procedure is regularly invoked in the House for the purpose of expediting the procedural rules Members must observe while the House is in session, and for including all Members in the debate. When this procedure is invoked, the entire House becomes a congressional committee. Essentially, the Committee of the Whole is used to speed up and simplify the work of the Congress.

Last Week's Poll

Do you agree with President Obama's student loan repayment reform?

28.1 Yes - Capping student loan repayments at 10 percent of annual income will keep recent graduates from drowning in debt

34.5 Maybe - It is a good first step, but I think the President and Congress should work to make higher education more affordable.

33.8 No - It is an overreach of the President's executive powers.

3.6 I do not know

Thank you,



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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