



The 47th Flyer

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



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October 6, 2014

Fixing Our Freight System

The movement of goods is one of the most important economic engines in our nation. The infrastructure this engine depends on is crumbling and we must fix it, make it stronger, and make it better.

To address this, I recently introduced legislation aimed at strengthening America's economic competitiveness by providing a dedicated revenue source to invest in our national freight infrastructure.

My bill, H.R.5624, Economy in Motion: The National Multimodal and Sustainable Freight Infrastructure Act, would dedicate roughly \$8 billion a year to address a growing backlog of infrastructure needs to support our economy.

According to a new report by the National Association of Manufacturers, "the United States is stuck in a decade-long period of decline in overall infrastructure capital spending that will eventually harm job creation, future productivity and global competitiveness."

This bill creates two funding mechanisms, one based on a formula that would allow all states with state freight plans to participate, and a grant program that would be open to all local, regional, and state governments.

In addition, the state freight plans will contain environmental goals and strategies developed by state freight advisory committee members; providing a path for freight projects to address and reduce the environmental and community impacts of goods movement.

On The Hill

Capitol Dome Construction

Each year thousands of 47th District residents visit Washington, D.C., and the U.S. Capitol is one of the top sights for many. In fact, my office arranges and leads tours of the Capitol for hundreds of 47th District visitors each year. You can click here to find out more about tours through my office.

If you are visiting Washington in the next two years, you should be aware of the Capitol Dome Restoration Project.

The Capitol Dome was constructed of cast iron more than 150 years ago and has not undergone a complete restoration since 1960. Due to age and weather, the Dome is now plagued by more than 1,000 cracks and

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Yes

No

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deficiencies.

The Architect of the Capitol recently began the multi-year restoration project to repair these problems, with the goal of restoring the Dome to its original condition.



The project impacts the exterior view of the Capitol, as scaffolding is now being constructed that in a short time will cover the entire Dome. On the interior, some areas in the rotunda have been covered, though the main mural in the top of the Dome is still visible.

To learn more about the project, [click here](#).

A Student Visitor

It is always a delight to see young students who have a passion for civic service.

This week, fifth grade student and Cypress resident Jeffrey Anderson stopped by my Capitol Hill office. Jeffrey was in Washington as part of the People to People Leadership Ambassador Program. Each year the group recognizes a select group of students for their academic achievement and leadership ability.



I am so glad Jeffrey and his family were able to visit my Washington, DC office as a part of their visit to our nation's capital! My office presented him with a certificate to recognize his service to our community.

In The 47th District

Our 47th District Office Interns for Summer 2014

Three times a year, we offer a small group of young men and women the opportunity to work in either my district or Capitol Hill office as interns. The District Office interns learn how a district office works on a day-to-day basis, including direct constituent services and learning how casework is managed and resolved, and attending meetings and events with myself and other staff.

If you or someone you know would like to be an intern in my office, you can find out more at my website by [clicking here](#).



Ruth Telahun was raised in Garden Grove, California. She is a recent graduate from Cal State University, Fullerton, where she received a B.A. in Communication with an emphasis on Public Relations and an A.A. in Journalism. Ruth has worked with several different non-profit organizations in Southern California by increasing awareness and promoting fundraising events. After a year of working in her field she plans on attending graduate school in Fall 2015.

Alijah Rivera was raised in Cerritos, California. He expects to graduate in the spring of 2017 from the



University of California, Santa Barbara with a degree in both Communication and Global Studies. He looks to apply his experiences from this internship in order to bring about political awareness on campus through the Asian Pacific Islander Political Alliance and the Associated Students Lobby Corps.



Kolby Keo was raised in Garden Grove, California. He is a senior at the University of California, Irvine, majoring in Political Science with an emphasis in U.S. Foreign Policy. At UCI he serves as President of the Tau Sigma National Honor Society. He is a proud transfer student from Orange Coast College in Costa Mesa, CA where he served as Student Body President and Coast District Student Trustee. Kolby currently serves as a Commissioner for the City of Garden Grove Parks, Recreation, and Arts Commission. Additionally, this will be his 11th year as a volunteer for the national nonprofit American Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO) where he serves on the Board of Directors at the Area and Regional levels.



Courtney Liss was born in Lake Forest and grew up in Huntington Beach and Westminster. She is a junior at Tulane University, where she studies political science and history, and expects to graduate in the fall of 2015. Courtney is currently improving her French and Arabic in Rabat, Morocco while studying the politics and history of the North African region.

Elizabeth Crough was born and raised in Long Beach, California, and is a fourth year Political Science major and Environmental Studies minor at the University of California, Los Angeles. She is a member of the UCLA Honors Program and belongs to the Alpha Lambda Delta & Phi Eta Sigma



Honors Societies as well as the National Society of Colligate Scholars. She had become an advanced scuba diver and helped to staff an aquatic sports shop. Elizabeth is a black belt in Hapkido and used to work as a martial arts instructor at a local community center. She intends to pursue a graduate degree in International relations in the near future.



Douglas Lazo was raised in Garden Grove, CA. He is a recent graduate of the California University of Fullerton, where he studied Political Science and was a head delegate for Fullerton's Model United Nations Team. Douglas is currently employed by Microsoft, but is planning on pursuing his MBA in the near future. When Douglas is not working or studying for the GMAT he spends his time volunteering for local organizations.



Adam Collins is originally from Whitehall, Michigan, but currently resides in Long Beach. He is a graduate of California State University Long Beach where he earned his B.A. in political science and was active in on campus politics and the daily student paper The Daily 49er. Presently he is involved with state campaigns.

Congress U

Bill Numbering

I recently introduced a bill entitled 'Economies in Motion: The National Multimodal and Sustainable Freight Infrastructure Act' that seeks to help rebuild our nation's crumbling infrastructure. In addition to a title, which is crafted by the author (in this case myself), a bill also has a letter/number designation. My 'Economies in Motion' bill is numbered H.R.5624.

In Congress, there are four types of legislation: bills, joint resolutions, concurrent resolutions and simple resolutions. Any of these may be introduced in either the House or the Senate.

Standard bills are identified with 'H.R.,' which stands for House of

Representatives.

A simple resolution is a legislative proposal that addresses matters entirely within the prerogative of the House or Senate. Simple resolutions in the House are given the label 'H.Res.,' which stands for House Resolution.

Joint Resolutions are legislative proposals nearly identical to standard bills that require the approval of both houses and the signature of the President. When originating in the House they are given the label 'H.J.Res.'

Concurrent Resolutions are legislative proposals that require the approval of both houses, do not require the signature of the President, and do not have the force of law. When they originate in the House, they are labeled with 'H.Con.Res.'

The designation is assigned by the House Clerk when the bill is introduced. The number portion of the designation is based on the chronological order in which the bill was submitted. H.R.5624 would be the 5,624th bill introduced in the current 113th Congress.

Last Week's Poll

This week, over 300,000 people rallied in NYC calling for action on climate change ahead of a U.N summit. How concerned are you about the impacts of climate change?

54.3% - Very concerned

13.7% - Somewhat concerned

32.0% - Not concerned

Thank you,



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