



The 47th Flyer

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



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November 10, 2014

Our Nation Faces a Pivotal Moment

Exercising your right to vote is at the cornerstone of our democracy. Many thanks to those of you who took the opportunity Tuesday to fulfill your civic duty and by doing so at the polls made your voices heard.

I have never taken my role as your Representative for granted and you can trust that I will continue to speak to the values, principles and beliefs of the 47th District as I begin my second term in Congress.

From the economy to the environment and from immigration reform to health care—we find ourselves in the midst of many critical legislative decisions. I am eager to return to Washington where I will continue to work to advocate for realistic, responsible legislative solutions.

I welcome the opportunity to work with my colleagues in the House on both sides of the aisle as we strive to implement policies that strengthen our democracy.

I truly believe that together, our voices will keep us, and the 47th District, moving forward.

On The Hill

We Must Restore NIH Funding

For nearly 10 years, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) have been severely underfunded. This has a broad impact on our nation's health as we rely heavily on the NIH to develop innovative treatments, vaccines and cures to alleviate the various diseases millions of Americans face all too often.

Unfortunately, federal funding for biomedical research has remained virtually stagnant over the course of the last decade and the NIH's purchasing power has been reduced by over 20 percent since 2003. This is a true injustice against the health, safety and security of our communities.

This is why I recently joined over 60 of my House colleagues in drafting a letter to Speaker Boehner and Minority Leader Pelosi urging them to restore NIH funding in any continuing resolution or appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2015.

The NIH plays an important role in assessing, securing and stabilizing the well-being of our communities, while serving as a critical resource in our understanding of diseases in the 21st century. Now, more than ever, it is

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As a reaction to the recent Ebola cases, several states have imposed a mandatory quarantine on health care workers returning from West Africa.

Do you support a travel ban and mandatory quarantine on health care workers returning from West Africa?

Yes - I support a mandatory quarantine and travel ban for American health workers returning from West Africa.

No - I agree with the steps recommended by the NIH and the CDC and do not want to discourage efforts to contain the epidemic in West Africa.

Undecided

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

critical to provide the resources the NIH needs to protect our nation.

In The 47th District

Everyone Deserves a Voice

I was proud to meet with the courageous journalist Nguyen Van Hai, also known as Dieu Cay, who founded the Free Journalists Club in Vietnam (FJCV). The FJCV mission is to work for a free, independent press in Vietnam--a country where the government maintains sole control of all media outlets.

In 2008, Dieu Cay and the two other co-founders of the FJCV, Ta Phong Tan and Anh Ba Saigon, were arrested and jailed for publishing blogs that spoke out against Chinese aggressions in Vietnamese territorial waters in the East Sea. In October of this year, Dieu Cay came to the United States after the Vietnamese government released him from prison and expelled him from Vietnam.



It takes great strength to speak up for justice. Together we all share an obligation to speak on behalf of those individuals without a voice. I am committed to continuing to work with my colleagues in Congress to prevent further human rights violations in Vietnam and other countries.

While our fight for human rights continues in communities across the world, I trust that the brave actions of journalists like Dieu Cay will bring us closer to promoting, preserving and ensuring basic freedoms for all citizens for generations to come.

Congress U

"Lame Duck" Session

Lame Duck is a mid-1760s English phrase that was first applied to U.S. politics in the 1860s.

In the lexicon of politics, a "lame duck" is a politician that has not been re-elected or is leaving office at the end of the term, but is still serving out the

remainder of the term. A "lame duck session," is used to describe either a House or Senate session which reconvenes in an even-numbered year following the November general elections to consider various items of business.

In the literal sense, it refers to a duck which is unable to keep up with its flock, making it a target for predators. In U.S. politics, the period between a November general election and the inauguration of officials early in the following year is commonly called the lame duck period.

In regard to the presidency, a president is a lame-duck after a successor has been elected, and during this time the outgoing president and president-elect usually embark on a transition of power.

Last Week's Poll

Which of the following is the MOST important issue facing the nation right now?

25.4% - The economy

7.1% - Terrorism

1.2% - Ebola

7.7% - Health care

17.2% - Immigration

12.4% - Federal budget deficit

10.1% - International conflicts

18.9% - Something else

Thank you,



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