



Working for the Residents and Businesses of San Luis Obispo County

Here are just a few of the key legislative issues I've worked on to help families and businesses in San Luis Obispo County:

- **Clean Energy** – Helped pass new fuel efficiency standards for automobiles into law, and supported efforts to increase investment in clean energy research and development at Cal Poly and Central Coast clean energy companies like REC Solar.
- **Coastal Preservation** – Passed legislation to provide states with funding to acquire coastal lands from willing sellers threatened by development; since 2005 the program has protected lands around the Morro Bay National Estuary and Piedras Blancas Light Station.
- **Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant** – Pushed the NRC to stop the relicensing effort until updated, advanced seismic studies of the area are completed and the findings are independently reviewed.
- **Expanding Healthcare** – Helped write and pass the Affordable Care Act which provided 34,000 people on the Central Coast with health care coverage for the first time and cut the local uninsured rate by 50%. Also have worked to improve the implementation by strengthening and improving the accuracy of provider networks and supporting increased subsidies for high-cost areas like the Central Coast.
- **Farm Bill** – Authored bipartisan provisions strengthening the integrity of the USDA organic label, and supported the inclusion of important specialty crop, organics, research, pest detection, and nutrition provisions backed by the California Farm Bureau and Central Coast growers in the final law.
- **Housing** -- Worked with agencies and bipartisan group of colleagues to preserve affordable housing and economic development funding for the following communities: Paso Robles, Atascadero, Morro Bay, and Nipomo.
- **Los Osos Wastewater Project** – Worked with Rep. Kevin McCarthy to pass legislation making the County eligible for Recovery Act funds to help build the project and pushed the U.S. Department of Agriculture to provide loans and grants to the County to reduce the cost of building the system on Los Osos residents and businesses.

- **Oak Shores Postal Issue** – Working with government agencies to have the Zip Code adjusted so it reflects that residents live in SLO County, not Monterey County.
- **Offshore Oil and Gas Drilling** – Championed efforts in Congress to block new drilling off our coast.
- **Panga Boat Enforcement** – Worked to ensure local law enforcement eligibility for federal homeland security funding to combat panga boat drug trafficking and led Congressional efforts to fully fund the program.
- **Piedras Blancas Light Station and Carrizo Plain National Monument** – Passed legislation to protect and conserve these public lands.
- **School-Based Health Centers** – Passed legislation to establish new school-based health clinics around the country, like the one at Arroyo Grande High School.
- **Supporting Sustainable Fisheries** – Enacted legislation and worked with local fishermen and conservation groups to implement innovative partnerships that have improved the long term sustainability of local fisheries
- **Veterans** – Assisted numerous local veterans in security the care and benefits they've earned. Also passed bills to help veterans use their specialized skills to get jobs and reconstruct incomplete military records so that every veteran can access the benefits they deserve.

At the request of local elected officials and business leaders in our community, I have helped secure federal support for important projects in San Luis Obispo County:

- **Cal Poly** – Funding to help build the research and business park at Cal Poly to foster links between the university and private sector
- **Central Coast AgriTourism Council** – Funding to develop an education program for farmers and ranchers to stimulate local tourism
- **Disaster Training** - \$6 million for school to train civilian authorities in disaster assistance/terrorist response at Camp SLO
- **Groundfish/Salmon Fishery** – millions in disaster assistance for fisherman affected by the groundfish and salmon disasters
- **Morro Bay Harbor and Estuary** – Millions to continue harbor dredging and study preservation and restoration of the National Estuary

- **Local Law Enforcement** – Millions to upgrade police records management systems, purchase chemical-biological masks for Homeland Security purposes, equipment for a regional DNA lab, and install radio relay towers in Pismo Beach
- **Port San Luis Breakwater** – Millions to make needed repairs to the damaged breakwater
- **San Luis Obispo County Regional Airport** – Grants to extend the airport's runway and make other safety improvements
- **SLO County Medical Therapy Unit** – Funding to establish a second unit and provide therapy for students with orthopedic needs ranging from severe burns to cerebral palsy
- **Transportation** – Millions to widen the Santa Maria River Bridge, construct the Pismo Beach Promenade, improve Highway 46, build the "City to Sea" bikepath, and make street and pedestrian improvements in Grover Beach
- **Wine Industry** – Funding to eradicate and research Pierce's Disease and promote environmentally friendly, sustainable vineyard practices
- **Women's Shelter Program of SLO** – Funding to provide housing and counseling for women and children survivors of domestic violence