

JUNE RECAP
ISSUE 42

DAMON CONNOLLY
Assemblymember, District 12

NEWSLETTER

DEAR FRIENDS,

This June, my team and I have continued working diligently on getting legislation through the State Senate. In addition to bills, the Legislature also passed a historic budget that invests in affordable housing, health care, the environment, and defends our social safety net.

This 42nd issue includes an update on legislation I am authoring, a recap of the Assembly Select Committee on Wildfire Prevention informational hearing in Santa Rosa, a highlight of "Wear Orange Day," and more. I have also been holding meetings, hearing from constituents, and spending time in our beautiful district.

I am excited to share these updates with you.



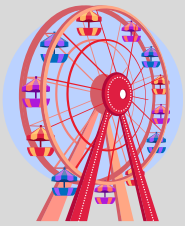
AD 12 UPDATES

Legislative Update
Budget Overview
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Sonoma Land Trust Community Walk
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LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

My 2026 legislative package is now moving through the State Senate after passing the Assembly. This past month, I have been presenting bills in various Senate policy committees where they have been deliberated and voted on. I am excited to continue working on getting these important bills to the Governor's desk and signed into law!

Below is a list of bills that have passed Senate policy committees:



AB 1711

This bill will ensure that money generated by fairgrounds is re-invested quickly into critical infrastructure improvements and maintenance projects.

Sponsored by the Western Fairs Association & Fairs Alliance



AB 1891

This bill will support conservation goals and wildfire prevention by expanding funding for beneficial fire projects.

Sponsored by the Karuk Tribe & Watershed Research Center



AB 2045

This bill extends the Habitat Restoration & Enhancement Act, which streamlines important restoration projects.

Sponsored by Sustainable Conservation



AB 2157

This bill makes the Displaced Oil and Gas Workers Fund permanent, ensuring workers affected by refinery closures have access to training that prepares them for jobs outside of the fossil fuel sector.

Sponsored by the United Steel Workers

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



AB 2227

This bill will ensure domestic farmworkers are adequately protected against wage theft.

Sponsored by California Farmworker Coalition



AB 2260

This bill will expedite the permitting process for small water projects that restore fish and wildlife habitats.

Sponsored by the California Salmon and Steelhead Coalition



AB 2577

This bill will require courts to make sure Proposition 65 settlements are utilized correctly by requiring companies to add warning labels or enact measures that reduce exposure to harmful chemicals.

Sponsored by the California Attorney General



AB 2618

This bill will put a two-year prohibition on CPUC commissioners leaving to work as lobbyists for utility companies, (“revolving-door”).

This bill is the winning submission of our “Ought to be a Law” Contest



AB 2777

This bill will provide additional flexibility for the State Water Resources Control Board to modernize the Clean Water State Revolving Fund program.

This bill is authored jointly with the Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials Committee

2026-27 BUDGET

This month, the Legislature passed a historic budget. We recognized the need for increased access to affordable housing, stabilizing costs for working families, defending the right to women's reproductive freedom, securing health care access, and strengthening wildfire prevention and emergency response systems.

Below are highlights from this year's budget deal:

Health:

- $90 million to support Planned Parenthood.
- Supports distressed hospitals by authorizing $190 million in loans.
- Lowers Covered California premiums with $300 million in subsidies.

Human Services:

- $30 million for CalFood emergency food banks.
- $16.5 million for diaper distribution banks for working families.

Pk-12 Public Education And Early Education

- $49,355 per pupil in State and Federal funds.
- $1.5 billion in Prop 2 facility bond funds for school construction projects.

Higher Education:

- $9 million to continue the Cal-Bridge Program to increase opportunity for Californians to participate in STEM fields.
- $14.3 million to support the California Healthy School Food Pathways Program.

Natural Resources:

- $8.835 million Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Fund.
- $719,000 Timber Regulation and Forest Restoration Fund, which enables cohesion, efficiency, and performance in the management of California's forested ecosystems.

For a detailed budget report, click **here**.

2026-27 BUDGET CONTINUED...

Environmental Protection:

- $135.5 million light-duty zero-emission vehicle incentives which helps increase the number of zero-emission vehicles (ZEVs) on California's roadways and achieving large-scale transformation of the fleet.
- $150 million for the Community Air Protection Program to reduce exposure in communities most impacted by air pollution.

Energy:

- $3 billion in Climate Credits for utility bills for residential consumers to lower energy costs while supporting the state's transition to a clean economy.
- $2 million for the installation of heat pumps for low income Californians.

Transportation:

- $40 million for Clean California litter abatement.
- $225,000,000 to install Zero Emission Vehicle Infrastructure.

Housing:

- $11.25 Billion Veterans and Affordable Housing Bond, which will provide voters the opportunity to fund new affordablehousing and expands homeowner assistance programs.
- $10 million for CalWORKs Housing Support Program.

Public Safety:

- $1 million Behavioral Health Services Act Funding.
- $42.8 million to combat fentanyl manufacturing, distribution, and trafficking.

For a detailed budget report, click **here**.

ASSEMBLY SELECT COMMITTEE ON WILDFIRE PREVENTION

As Chair of the Assembly Select Committee on Wildfire Prevention, I hosted an informational hearing on June 12th about how wildfire prevention has improved in Sonoma County, since the Tubbs Fire in 2017.

Overcoming immense devastation and tragedy, Sonoma County became a model for the world due to their ability to organize, streamline, and recovery with resilience in the aftermath of an unprecedented disaster.

Our panelists offered their insights on how the lessons learned from the Tubbs Fire recovery advanced the region's wildfire prevention strategies. Thank you to our local experts who attended and shared their thoughts on this important issue.

This hearing will be used to inform policy and budget decisions that we make on wildfire prevention issues next year.

To watch a full recording of the hearing, click **here**.









WEAR ORANGE DAY

On June 4th, I joined my legislative colleagues, Everytown for Gun Safety, Moms Demand Action, and members of the Gun Violence Prevention Work Group for the annual "Wear Orange event" in recognition of National Gun Violence Awareness Day.

This event honors the countless families, survivors, and communities whose lives have been affected due to gun violence.

I stand with survivors, advocates, and community leaders who are working every day to prevent gun violence and will continue to make our communities safer.

To learn more about wear orange day, click **here**.



SONOMA LAND TRUST
COMMUNITY WALK

I am excited to collaborate with Sonoma Land Trust to host a walk and talk from Howarth Park to the Southeast Greenway through Spring Lake Regional Park.

This approximately 1.5-mile walk will take us from Lake Raphine to Spring Lake and up to the eastern end of the Southeast Greenway for an overview of the future trail connecting through Santa Rosa.

For 50 years, Sonoma Land Trust has been partnering with local communities to protect the open, natural, and working lands and waters.

This will be an amazing opportunity to learn more about how Sonoma Land Trust is protecting our natural spaces and how I am advocating for environmental protections in Sacramento.

Saturday, July 25th
Howarth Park - Cypress Point A
picnic area, Santa Rosa, CA
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

If you would like to like to join us please rsvp by clicking here.



COFFEE & CHAT IN SAN RAFAEL

I wanted to invite you to join me at the Autistry Studios on Friday, July 10th for a coffee and chat!

I am excited to hear your thoughts on what's happening in our community and to share more about my work in Sacramento.

For more information on Autistry Studios, click here.



Friday, July 10, 2026
9:30 AM – 11:30 AM
Autistry Studios
850 4th Street San Rafael, CA 94901

If you would like to like to join us please rsvp at the link below.

RSVP Here.



LOCAL RESOURCES

NAMI Marin County & NAMI Sonoma County provide resources and advocacy for those struggling with their mental health
Crisis Line: 988
(415) 444-0480
(800) 950-6264

Legal Aid of Marin & Legal Aid of Sonoma provide low income and vulnerable residents with access to high quality, effective legal services.
(628) 253-575
(707) 542-1290

Canal Alliance provides affordable and comprehensive immigration legal services in Marin County.
(415) 306-0437

The Multicultural Center of Marin provides resources to prepare community members to assert their rights.
(415) 526-2486

Marin Housing Authority & Marin Health and Human Services assist residents in finding affordable housing.
(415) 491-2525

Latino Service Providers provides a variety of resources to Latinx residents in Sonoma County.
(707) 837-9577

Center for Domestic Peace provides refuge, resources, and support for those experiencing domestic violence.
(415) 924-6616

Community Action Marin provides services to help residents meet basic needs.
(415) 526-7500

Community Action Partnership Sonoma County provides multi-generational support for families.
(707) 544-6911

Marin Center for Independent Living provides peer-led, person-centered, one-to-one care navigation and other social services.
(415) 459-6245

Enterprise Resource Center is a mental health drop-in center providing immediate assistance to individuals facing mental health challenges.
(415) 457-4554

Ceres Community Project provides medically tailored meals and groceries to low-income community members diagnosed with serious, chronic or complex illnesses.
(707) 829-5833 / ext. 201 (English) or ext. 203 (Spanish)

CAPITOL UPDATES

SNAPSHOTS

It is especially exciting when I have the opportunity to meet with constituents from AD12 advocating in Sacramento! Here are some snapshots of the meetings and events my Capitol office participated in over the past month. If you want to schedule a meeting or send an event invite, please reach out through our website by clicking here.



HONORING SONOMA COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS, DR AIMEE CARTER FOR THIS YEAR'S LGBTQ PRIDE RECOGNITION



MEETING ASTRONAUT VICTOR GLOVER ON THE ASSEMBLY FLOOR



STANDING WITH AAPI FORCE IN A PRESS CONFERENCE TO CALL FOR COPORATE ACCOUNTABILITY



CONNECTING WITH LEADERS OF THE HABEMATOLEL POMO OF UPPER LAKE



MEETING WITH LOCAL OFFICIALS FROM SONOMA COUNTY



RUNNING INTO MARIN AND SONOMA COUNTY FIREFIGHTERS AT THE CAPITOL

DISTRICT UPDATES

SNAPSHOTS

I greatly value my time at home connecting with constituents in AD12. I have had many great opportunities to attend events, tours, and hold productive meetings with constituents throughout the North Bay. Here are some snapshots from the past month.



AGE-FRIENDLY CORTE MADERA CELEBRATION EVENT



CONNECTING WITH LEO T. MCCARTHY INSITUTE FELLOWS



CELEBRATING THE "INTERANTIONAL YEAR OF THE WOMAN FARMER" WITH COMMUNITY ALLIANCE WITH FAMILY FARMERS



PARTICIPATING IN THE WESTERN WEEKEND PARADE IN WEST MARIN





JOINING VIVALON TO DELIVER MEALS THROUGH THEIR "MEALS ON WHEELS" PROGRAM IN MARIN

As always, my door is open and my staff are available to assist you. Feel free to contact me through my website, or by calling one of my offices.

With gratitude,

Damon

Damon Connolly
Assemblymember, 12th District



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