

North Los Angeles County Regional Center

State Legislators

For the 2017-18 Session

– Notes –

With the passage of Proposition 28 in June, 2012, newly-elected legislators may spend up to twelve years in either the Assembly or the Senate (cf. State Constitution, Article IV, Sec. 2).

Senators have four-year terms. Half of them are up for election every two years, depending on whether or not the district is an even or odd number. In 2016, all odd-numbered districts were up for election. Assembly members have two-year terms, and every seat is contested in the general election.

The top-two election system makes state-level primary elections non-partisan, allowing any registered voter to cast a ballot for any candidate. The top two vote-getters (regardless of party) face off in the general election, even if one of them received >50% of the vote. However, for special elections – to fill a sudden vacancy – if someone gets >50% of the vote in the primary, they are the outright winner, and no general election is held.

The double dagger (‡) indicates the district has three or fewer zip codes within your catchment. When another regional center serves three or fewer zip codes in a shared district, they will be marked with a double dagger (‡).

To find your particular legislators, go to:

www.findyourrep.ca.gov and <http://www.house.gov/representatives/find/>

For state-level district maps, go to:

http://www.legislature.ca.gov/legislators_and_districts/districts/districts.html

For Congressional district maps, go to:

<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/members/map>



SD 18 – Bob Hertzberg

Shared with LRC‡

Democrat – Terms out in 2022

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Biography (abridged)

Bob Hertzberg is the first former Assembly Speaker in 86 years to be elected to the California State Senate, and one of only six lawmakers in California history to serve as Assembly Speaker and subsequently win a seat in the Senate.

In 1996, Hertzberg ran for the 40th Assembly District seat, a slice of the San Fernando Valley that took in North Hollywood, Studio City, Van Nuys and Woodland Hills. He won by a large margin. During his time in the Assembly, Hertzberg helped shape and pass legislation that hammered out agriculture-to-urban water transfers, providing a framework to end nearly seven decades of California/Colorado River water disputes.

On the education front, Hertzberg helped increase funds available through the “Cal-Grants” program, giving poor students unprecedented access to colleges and universities. He also negotiated a compromise that allowed the California Legislature to break a decade-long logjam and place school bond-related measures on the 1998, 2000 and 2002 ballots.

Other issues he supported include the launch of Metro’s Orange Line in the San Fernando Valley; construction of the California State University Northridge Valley Performing Arts Center; and construction of sound walls for the 405 Freeway.

In 2014, Hertzberg decided it was time for a second act in politics. The Van Nuys Democrat ran for the 18th District of the California State Senate and secured more than 70 percent of the vote. He chairs the Senate Committee on Governance and Finance and serves on the Committee on Elections and Constitutional Amendments; the Committee on Energy, Utilities and Communications; the Committee on the Judiciary; and the Committee on Natural Resources and Water.



SD 21 – Scott Wilk

Shared with IRC

Republican – Terms out in 2024

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Biography (abridged)

Scott Wilk was born at Antelope Valley Hospital and raised in the Antelope Valley. He attended local schools before graduating with a B.A. from California State University, Bakersfield.

Before being elected to the Senate, Scott served as the State Assemblyman for California's 38th State Assembly District. He was first elected in 2012, and re-elected in 2014 with 66.3% of the vote. As a California State Assemblyman, Scott focused much of his time on job creation. He was the principal co-author of AB 1839, the California Film and Television Job Retention and Promotion Act. Since AB 1839, California's film tax credit was increased to \$330 million a year and replaces the current lottery system with a more competitive and accountable system.

Knowing that water is our most precious resource, Scott worked across the aisle to co-author Proposition 1, which will build new storage and conveyance systems to ensure that California will have a sufficient water supply for its families and businesses.

In 2014, Scott was selected by the non-partisan, non-profit State Legislative Leaders Foundation to attend the prestigious Emerging Leaders Program held at the University of Virginia. This program is geared toward new and upcoming lawmakers that show promise as future legislative leaders – Scott was the only legislator selected from California.

Scott and his wife Vanessa reside in Santa Clarita, and have two adult children Alison and Scott Jr.



SD 25 – Anthony Portantino

*Shared with ELARC‡, IRC‡, LRC, SGPRC
Democrat – Terms out in 2024*

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Biography (abridged)

Elected on November 8, 2016, Senator Anthony Portantino represents California's 25th State Senate District, which includes Sunland/Tujunga, Atwater Village, and the Griffith Park areas of the city of Los Angeles, Burbank, Glendale, La Crescenta, Montrose, La Cañada Flintridge, Pasadena, Altadena, South Pasadena, San Marino, Sierra Madre, Monrovia, Bradbury, Duarte, Glendora, San Dimas, La Verne, Claremont and Upland.

From 2006 to 2012, Portantino represented the 44th Assembly District. While in the Assembly he chaired the Committees on Higher Education, Revenue and Taxation, and the Select Committee on the Preservation of the Entertainment Industry.

Prior to his election to the Assembly, he spent many years working in film and television production, as a producer, line producer, art director, assistant director and location manager. Senator Portantino also served on the California Film Commission, where he helped implement the California Film Tax Credit Program.

In addition to his time spent in Sacramento, Senator Portantino has a long and distinguished record of service which includes nearly eight years on the La Cañada Flintridge City Council, with two terms as Mayor and vice chair of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Advisory Committee. He also served as president of the League of California Cities Mayors and Councilmembers Department, and the legislative chair of the California Contract Cities Association.



SD 26† – Benjamin Allen

*Shared with LRC, HRC, WRC
Democrat – Terms out in 2026*

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Biography (abridged)

California State Senator Ben Allen was elected in 2014 to represent the 26th Senate District, which consists of the Westside, Hollywood and coastal South Bay communities of Los Angeles County.

Ben serves as chair of the Senate Education Committee and the legislature's Joint Committee on the Arts. He is a member of the Senate Committees on Elections and Constitutional Amendments, Natural Resources and Water, and Transportation and Housing. He co-chairs the Environmental Caucus and is vice-chair of the Jewish Caucus.

Ben has authored several measures that have become law, including the groundbreaking bill to boost vaccination rates among schoolchildren and a landmark river protection bill. He authored laws that protect veterans; improve the care for persons with Alzheimer's disease; and enable HIV-positive persons to donate life-saving organs to other HIV-positive persons.

While serving as chair of the Senate Elections and Constitutional Amendments Committee in 2015-16, he championed campaign reform and transparency issues. Ben coauthored the Senate's historic climate change legislation, which requires 50% of the state's energy to come from renewable sources, and doubles energy efficiency in buildings, by 2030.

Ben received the Freshman Legislator of the Year award from the California School Boards Association, and was named Legislator of the Year by the Alzheimer's Association.

He has a Bachelor of Arts degree from Harvard University, where he graduated magna cum laude in History; a Master of Philosophy degree from the University of Cambridge, and a Juris Doctorate from UC Berkeley. He is fluent in Spanish.



SD 27 – Henry Stern

Shared with TCRC, WRC

Democrat – Terms out in 2028

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Biography

Senator Henry Stern is a sixth-generation Californian and native of this district. He credits his passion for public service as a family trait, whose diverse history includes farming and ranching, music and film, and a steadfast commitment to helping young people fulfill their potential. Senator Stern was elected to represent the 27th Senate District, which includes parts of Los Angeles and Ventura counties, on November 8, 2016.

Prior to his election, Stern worked as a senior policy advisor to former California State Senator Fran Pavley. As a staff member, he helped Senator Pavley pass common sense policies to improve the quality of life and economic sustainability of California. Together, they advanced bipartisan measures to balance the budget, respond to the drought, revitalize our education system, ensure safer communities, and update California's energy policy for the 21st century.

Senator Stern has also lectured at UCLA and UC Berkeley, enjoys volunteering at his local Boys & Girls Club and is a member of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Advisory Committee, the Jewish Federation, the American Jewish Committee, and the Truman National Security Project.

He is an alumnus of Harvard University and UC Berkeley Law.



AD 36 – Tom Lackey

Shared with IRC, KRC

Republican – Terms out in 2026

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Biography (abridged)

First elected to the State Assembly in 2014, Tom Lackey has been focused on providing common sense solutions to some of California's most challenging issues. He has been a leader on providing strong public safety policies, and has been an advocate for affordable taxes, education improvements and job growth through private sector economic development.

During his short time as a State Legislator, Lackey has championed successful efforts to combat the growing problem of drugged driving and provide increased state funding to support programs for individuals with developmental disabilities. As a result, he was honored as Legislator of Year by the California Police Chiefs Association and Easter Seals—a non-profit dedicated to providing services and advocacy for special needs individuals.

After high school, Lackey served his church as a missionary for two years. Upon returning, he completed his Bachelor of Science degree in special education from Utah State University, and later was an elementary special education teacher.

He later went on to have a 28-year career with the California Highway Patrol, retiring in 2013.

Lackey first entered elected public service as a member of the Palmdale Elementary School District Board of Trustees. He went on to serve two terms as a councilmember for City of Palmdale from 2005 to 2014.

He currently serves as a member of the Assembly Public Safety, Health, and Budget Committees. Lackey is the Vice-Chair of the Assembly Accountability and Administrative Review Committee.

He has two children, Justin and Jani.



AD 38 – Dante Acosta

Shared with TCRC

Republican – Terms out in 2028

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Biography

Born and raised in Southern California, Dante lost his father when he was just 11 years old. Shortly after his death, Dante's mother started a family clothing boutique to support the family, instilling a strong work ethic and the spirit of volunteerism in Dante and his siblings.

Dante worked during high school and college, in auto parts shops and car dealerships, eventually rising to General Sales Manager of a San Fernando Valley Chevrolet dealership. His success led him to a career in finance with senior leadership positions at Wells Fargo, Prudential Financial, and ING.

After 20 years advising individuals and businesses and spending countless hours volunteering in his community with Circle of Hope, William S. Hart Museum, Santa Clarita Valley Rotary club, Old Town Newhall Association, and coaching Little League and drama, Dante ran for the Santa Clarita City Council. He serves on the Economic Development Committee, Film and Tourism Committee and as Santa Clarita's representative to the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG).

Dante and his wife, Carolyn, moved to Santa Clarita 30 years ago. They chose Santa Clarita as a great place to live and raise a family and have been blessed with three children: Rudy, Alexandra, and Doran.

After his eldest son, Army Specialist Rudy Acosta, was killed in action in Afghanistan in 2011, Dante focused his energy on his family and giving back to his community. Dante is the founder of the Rudy A. Acosta Memorial Foundation and a member of the fundraising committee for the Portraits of the Fallen Memorial, a project that honors California's fallen heroes from the Iraq and Afghanistan wars.



AD 39 – Raul Bocanegra

Democrat – Terms out in 2026

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Biography (abridged)

Raul Bocanegra was elected to represent the 39th District in the California State Assembly. The district includes the communities of Agua Dulce, Canyon Country, Newhall, Santa Clarita, the Los Angeles communities of Arleta, Granada Hills, Lakeview Terrace, Mission Hills, North Hollywood, Pacoima, Shadow Hills, Sun Valley, Sunland-Tujunga, Sylmar, and the City of San Fernando.

During his first term in the Assembly, Raul worked in a bipartisan fashion to successfully pass legislation that addressed key issues, such as increasing the minimum wage, removing barriers to accessing affordable healthcare for women and working families, and revamping public schools with programs that give students the skills they need to success in today's workforce.

Raul also chaired the Assembly Revenue and Taxation Committee and was tasked with making financial decisions that would greatly impact citizens of California. He used this position to help balance our state's budget, cracking down on those cheating the tax code, and protecting critical programs from future recessions through creation of the State's Rainy Day Savings Fund. Raul played a key role in the leadership team that passed a budget that was on-time and with a surplus in more than a decade.

Raul understands that direct community outreach at the local level is critical for positive change. He helped establish neighborhood "block clubs" to improve public safety, and used his Urban Planning background to teach students at UCLA, CSU Long Beach, and CSU Northridge in their nationally-renowned Urban Studies and Planning Department.



AD 43 – Laura Friedman

Shared with LRC

Democrat – Terms out in 2028

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Biography

Laura Friedman was elected to the state Assembly in November 2016 to represent the 43rd District which encompasses Los Angeles, Glendale, and Burbank.

Laura has been a prominent figure in the community and taken on leadership in a breadth of areas; as a small business owner, film and television producer, Mayor and City Councilmember, and on several boards and advocacy committees.

Laura got her start in the private sector after receiving her B.A. from the University of Rochester, New York when she founded a web-based small business in 2001, and later worked as a sought after producer in the entertainment industry.

In 2009 she was elected to the Glendale City Council, served as Mayor from 2011-2012 and was re-elected in 2013.

Laura is the immediate Past-President of the Independent Cities Association and current board member of the Southern California Association of Governments where she sits on the Energy and Environment Committee. Laura also spent five years on the Glendale Design Review Board and sits on the current Board of Directors for the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

She is an advocate for the arts community and is active with the Society of Architectural Historians and the Los Angeles Conservancy Modern Committee. Laura is a Glendale resident and lives with her husband Guillaume Lemoine, a landscape designer, and their daughter Rachel.



AD 44† – Jacquie Irwin

Shared with TCRC

Democrat – Terms out in 2026

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Biography (abridged)

Jacquie Irwin was elected in November 2014 to represent California's 44th Assembly District, which includes the communities of Camarillo, Casa Conejo, Channel Islands Beach, El Rio, Lake Sherwood, Moorpark, Oak Park, Oxnard, Port Hueneme, Santa Rosa Valley, Thousand Oaks, and Westlake Village.

First elected to the City Council in 2004, Irwin served two terms as mayor of Thousand Oaks, where she was a strong advocate for the preservation of open space and responsible development. As a councilmember, Irwin actively served on several boards and committees, including the Thousand Oaks Crime Prevention Task Force; Lynn/Olsen Road Traffic and Pedestrian Committee; Conejo Coalition for Youth and Families; Intergovernmental Relations Committee; Finance and Audit Committee and Capital Facilities Committee.

Irwin also serves on the executive board for the Ventura County Chapter American Red Cross, the executive board for Community House of Hope, the advisory board for Women's Economic Ventures, the CSUCI Arts and Sciences Leadership Council, and has volunteered with the Girl Scouts of the Central Coast. In addition to chairing the American Diabetes Tour for the Cure for three years, Irwin was co-chair of the American Cancer Society's Bugatti Ball. Additionally, she is a member of the Thousand Oaks Rotary Club.

Irwin chairs the Veterans Affairs Committee, and serves on the Accountability and Administrative Review, Agriculture, Assembly Budget, and Higher Education and the Jobs, Economic Development, and the Economy Committees.



AD 45 – Matthew Dababneh

Shared with TCRC‡, WRC‡

Democrat – Terms out in 2024

Contact Information

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Biography (abridged)

Matt Dababneh, former Chief of Staff to Congressman Brad Sherman, was elected to the California State Assembly in November 2013. He represents the 45th Assembly District communities of Bell Canyon, Calabasas, Canoga Park, Chatsworth, Encino, Hidden Hills, Northridge, Reseda, Sherman Oaks, Tarzana, West Hills, Winnetka, and Woodland Hills.

A fourth-generation Valley resident, Dababneh was born and raised in the San Fernando Valley. He graduated from the University of California, Los Angeles with a degree in Political Science and History.

Upon graduating from UCLA, Dababneh worked on John Kerry's presidential campaign, where he was inspired to pursue a career in public service. For eight years, he served as the District Chief of Staff and Senior Aide to Congressman Brad Sherman where he assisted thousands of Valley residents and businesses with federal and local concerns. Dababneh worked with seniors needing help with their Medicare and Social Security benefits, homeowners struggling to avoid foreclosure on a family home, and businesses trying to resolve disputes with the IRS.

Since being elected to the State Assembly, Dababneh has focused on bringing jobs to the Valley, making it easier for families to purchase a home, improving access to healthcare and expanding educational opportunities for college age students.

In 2014 Dababneh was appointed as an Assistant Majority Whip for the Majority Caucus, and in January of 2015 he began serving as the Chairman of the Banking and Finance Committee. As Chairman he has focused on increasing access to capital in underserved communities, financial literacy in younger generations, increasing consumer protections and combating predatory lending. Dababneh also serves on the Revenue and Taxation, Privacy and Insurance Committees.



AD 46 – Adrin Nazarian

Shared with LRC‡

Democrat – Terms out in 2024

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Biography (abridged)

Adrin Nazarian is a product of the San Fernando Valley. He grew up here, graduated from a local Valley school before receiving his BA degree in Economics from UCLA in 1996. Adrin served as chief of staff to Councilmember Paul Krekorian, who represents the communities of Studio City, Sherman Oaks, Valley Village, North Hollywood and Valley Glen, before being elected to the State Assembly. Previously, Adrin had served as chief of staff to then-Assistant Majority Leader Paul Krekorian in the California State legislature, representing the communities of North Hollywood, Van Nuys, Valley Glen and Toluca Lake among others, since 2006.

Upon graduating UCLA, Adrin participated in the prestigious CORO Fellowship in Public Affairs program. From 1997-1999, Adrin served as an aide to Congressman Brad Sherman (D-CA), assisting him with business and labor community issues.

In 1999, former Governor Gray Davis appointed Adrin as Special Assistant to the California Trade and Commerce Agency. During his tenure at the agency, he helped establish the Division of Science, Technology and Innovation, which focused on creating and maintaining technology based jobs in California.

Adrin believes in civic engagement and the importance of giving back to his community, he has served on the boards of several community based organizations including the East Valley YMCA and the YWCA. Adrin was one of the founding members of Generation Next Mentorship program which worked with local public schools to give young people alternatives to a life of gangs and drugs.

Adrin and his wife, Diana, live in Sherman Oaks with their sons Alex and David.



AD 50 – Richard Bloom

Shared with LRC, WRC

Democrat – Terms out in 2024

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Biography (abridged)

Richard Bloom was first elected to the 50th District of the California State Assembly in 2012 where he proudly represents the communities of Agoura Hills, Bel Air, Beverly Hills, Brentwood, Hollywood, Malibu, Pacific Palisades, Santa Monica, Topanga, West Hollywood, and West LA.

Shortly after his election, Assemblymember Richard Bloom was appointed to the Chair of the Assembly Budget Subcommittee on Resources and Transportation where he quickly established himself as a leader on one of the biggest issues facing this generation - climate change. As Chair, Assemblymember Bloom has pushed for increasing renewable energy development and reducing our reliance on fossil fuels and promoting smart and sustainable planning that expands affordable housing and reduces traffic congestion and commute times.

Overall, Assemblymember Bloom considers climate change, environmental protection, congestion relief with a focus on public transit, bike, and pedestrian investment, and sub-regional connectivity job creation with a particular focus on the green economy, affordable housing, and homelessness his top priorities.

In addition to serving as Chair of the Assembly Budget Subcommittee on Resources and Transportation, Assemblymember Bloom serves on the Assembly Committees on Appropriations, Budget, Business and Professions, Higher Education, and Transportation.

Prior to being elected to the California State Assembly in 2012, Assemblymember Bloom served on the Santa Monica City Council for 13 years where he served as Mayor three times and Mayor Pro Tempore twice. He also served as Chair of the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission, Chair of the Westside Cities Council, and as a special California State Senate appointment to the California Coastal Commission.