

Dear Friends,

As we get ready to welcome the spring, I wanted to take the time to provide you with an update about the issues I am working on in Washington that are affecting our communities on the Central Coast.

As always, please feel free to share this information with friends and neighbors. I also want to invite you to visit my website for more information, and to follow me on Facebook and Twitter to share your thoughts on issues facing our communities.

KEY ISSUES

Mending America's Economy:

America's economy is on the mend from the worst financial meltdown since the Great Depression. We have seen important signs of growth, but we aren't out of the woods just yet: unemployment in California is around 11% and people across the country are still struggling to put food on their tables and keep roofs over their heads. Clearly, there is more to be done, [Read more.](#)

Making Progress on Foreclosures:

Our economic recovery is directly tied to a recovery of the housing market, as well as ability to help families stay in their homes. The recently announced \$25 billion settlement between the state attorneys general and the nation's five largest banks offers our communities another step to recovery. Find out what the deal means for you. [Read More](#) .

A Commitment to our Veterans:

The debt that we owe to our nation's veterans is immeasurable. As a member of the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Subcommittee, I have continued to champion the cause of veterans on the Central Coast and across the country. [Read more](#) .

Supporting Agriculture:

The 5-year Federal Farm Bill impacts multiple sectors of our economy, not to mention our nation's food supply. Delaying a Farm Bill creates unnecessary uncertainty for people who receive nutrition assistance, for farmers making production and planting decisions, and for food and farm businesses planning to grow, hire employees, and access new markets. [Read More.](#)

Animal Welfare and Good Economics:

As an advocate for agriculture and animal welfare, I am proud to be a co-sponsor of the Egg Products Inspection Act Amendments of 2012, a common-sense bill that will help farmers, consumers, and animals. This legislation is proof that animal welfare and what's good for industry economics are not mutually exclusive. [Read More.](#)

Preserving Healthy Marine Ecosystems:

America's coasts define the landscape across which a critical national discussion is unfolding. Along the Central Coast, our economy depends on healthy marine ecosystems, and I remain committed to preserving the health and integrity of our ocean and coasts. [Read More.](#)

RESOURCES YOU CAN USE

Stay Connected

Everyday our nation's capitol is swirling with activity and debate over issues critical to our communities. To help keep you up to date on what's going on in Washington and on the Central Coast, I invite you to follow me on Facebook, Twitter—two great forums to view quick information and share your thoughts and opinions. [Read More.](#)

Are You Visiting Washington, DC?

If you're visiting our nation's capital, I am ready to help you plan a memorable trip! My staff can help reserve tours for many of the most popular sites in DC including the White House, the National Archives, the Library of Congress, the Supreme Court, the Pentagon, the Kennedy Center and the Department of State Diplomatic Reception Rooms. [Read More.](#)

Thank you for taking the time to read my update, and I look forward to seeing you on the Central Coast.

Sincerely,



