



California State Assembly Democratic Caucus Chair

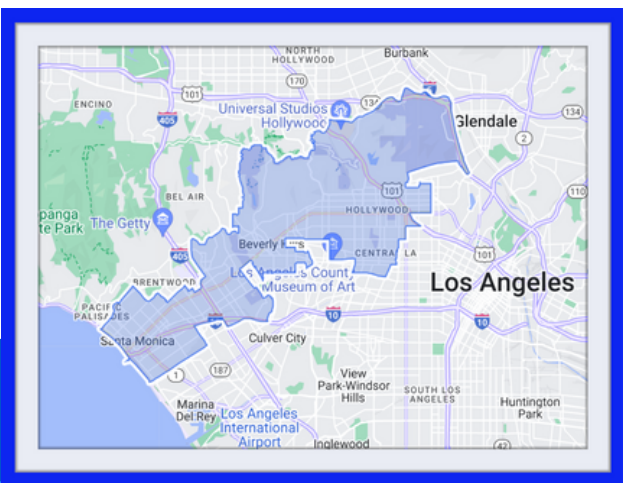
# RICK CHAVEZ ZBUR

Representing California's 51st Assembly District, including Hollywood, West Hollywood, Beverly Hills, Westwood, Santa Monica, and portions of Los Angeles.

## Back in the District after Celebrating the Signing of Four Bills into Law



A lot has changed in the few months since our last newsletter. Governor Newsom has signed four of the bills in my inaugural bill package. I am also proud to announce that I've been named Democratic Caucus Chair of the California State Assembly by Speaker Robert Rivas. It is an honor to represent the people of Assembly District 51 as I work with the Speaker to identify solutions to the most pressing challenges that we face in the district and statewide.



Thank you for reading our November 2023 newsletter.

Capitol Office

916-319-2051

We want to hear from you! Please reach out to our office for any questions, comments or concerns.

District Office

323-436-5184



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<https://a51.asmdc.org/>

# New Laws Authored by Asm. Rick Chavez Zbur

## **AB 3 California Offshore Wind & Jobs Advancement Act**

Requires the California Energy Commission to study and recommend strategies for developing port infrastructure while maximizing in-state job opportunities and achieving our climate change goals through offshore wind energy while protecting cultural and natural resources.

## **AB 5 Safe & Supportive Schools Act**

Provides public school teachers and staff, who are on the front lines of supporting California students, with the training and support they need to better serve LGBTQ+ and all students.

## **AB 1484 Bargaining Rights for Temporary Public Employees**

Provides temporary employees of cities and counties the option to join existing bargaining units with permanent employees doing similar work, providing them with basic workers' rights without significantly increasing costs or limiting the employer's ability to hire temporary workers as needed.

## **AB 1620 Housing Security for Tenants with Physical Disabilities**

Authorizes local jurisdictions to require that tenants with permanent physical disabilities be allowed to relocate to an available unit on an accessible floor at the same rental rate and terms.

To learn more about the bills, click the link below:

<https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov>

# DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS CHAIR RICK CHAVEZ ZBUR

## Focusing on Democratic Leadership in the State of California

I am proud to be appointed by our new Speaker Robert Rivas to serve as the Democratic Caucus Chair for the California State Assembly, one of the Speaker's key leadership roles. As part of Speaker Rivas' leadership team, I am responsible for leading discussion and decision-making about Caucus priorities, elevating policy ideas, helping achieve consensus on key issues, and helping to ensure members have the tools they need to serve the public.



To keep up with the latest news on the California State Assembly Democratic Caucus, head to our [website](https://a51.asmdc.org/) or follow us on [social media](#).

# JOINING ACTORS & WRITERS ON STRIKE

## A Historic Win for Hollywood's Unions

Everybody deserves a living wage, including actors, writers, and all the amazing Angelenos whose work contributes to the film industry and its historic legacy in Hollywood. I joined both WGA and SAG-AFTRA on the picket lines to demand fair wages for fair work. I am thrilled that studios and unions have reached an agreement, so that everybody can get back to doing what they love.



# MY AGENDA TO ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS

My bill package focused on legislation that will keep people in their homes while addressing some of the most vulnerable groups, including foster and LGBTQ+ youth, tenants with disabilities, and people at high-risk of eviction.

## AB 369 Independent Living Program for Foster Youth

- Young people aging out of the foster care system frequently experience homelessness. AB 369 brings California in line with 30+ other states by increasing the age for foster youth to receive support through the Independent Living Program from age 21 to 23. The bill also clarifies that young adults are allowed to accumulate cash savings while in extended foster care, better equipping them to successfully transition into independent adulthood.

## AB 1335 Regional Housing & Sustainability Planning

- Requires planning and reporting for sustainable housing development to be more transparent and makes clarifying changes so that housing and sustainability goals under the Regional Housing Need Allocation (RHNA) and Sustainable Communities Strategies (SCS) programs are better aligned. The bill will incentivize sustainable housing near transit to reduce our reliance on cars.

## AB 1431 California Housing Security Act

- One key to reducing the number of Californians experiencing homelessness is to empower people who are currently housed to stay in their homes. This bill will reduce housing insecurity by providing rent subsidies to low income former foster youth, older adults, adults with disabilities, people experiencing unemployment or homelessness, and recently incarcerated individuals. It requires the California Department of Housing and Community Development to establish a two-year pilot program to do this in up to four counties in different geographic regions across the state.

## AB 1620 Housing Security for Tenants with Permanent Physical Disabilities

- People with physical disabilities who are living in rent controlled apartments are at risk of becoming homeless if they become unable to access their home and cannot find a ground floor unit at a similar rental rate. AB 1620 will address this problem by authorizing local jurisdictions to require that tenants with permanent physical disabilities be allowed to relocate to an available unit on an accessible floor at the same rental rate and terms.

# SUPPORTING COMMUNITY RESOURCES

*I Successfully Advocated for Approved Funding for Nine Incredible Non-Profits Serving the Communities of District 51*

\$2,000,000 for Center for Reproductive Health, Law and Policy of UCLA School of Law

\$5,000,000 for the Ralph J. Bunche Center for African-American Studies at UCLA

\$500,000 for Project Angel Food Expansion & Renovation

\$650,000 for Santa Monica College Library

\$1.5 Million for the West Hollywood Log Cabin Recovery Center

\$500,000 for the Hollywood Public Restrooms Visitor Information Center

\$1,000,000 for the Equality California Institute's Safe & Supportive Schools Program

\$200,000 for the Holocaust Museum of Los Angeles' *Dimensions in Testimony* Exhibit

\$330 Million & a 5-Year Extension for the California Film & Television Tax Credit



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# RECOGNIZING OUR LOCAL HEROES

## Acknowledging the People Working To Make District 51 a Better Place

I am proud to have secured funding for a number of non-profits that are providing important services to our community. Along with Sen. Ben Allen, \$1.15 Million was secured for The West Hollywood Log Cabin Recovery Center, an historic building that's been a symbol of hope for many facing addiction issues. I also secured \$500,000 for Project Angel Food, which delivers more than one million meals a year to people with serious illnesses.



Standing with West Hollywood Mayor Sepi Shyne to Present a Check for \$650,000 to the Log Cabin Recovery Center



The Log Cabin Recovery Center, an historic building that's been a symbol of hope for many facing addiction issues.



Marking the construction of a brand new building for Project Angel Food.



Presenting a check to Project Angel Food CEO Richard Ayoub, standing with humanitarian Maryanne Williamson and actresses Sheryl Lee Ralph and Jamie Lee Curtis.

# JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES LA

## My District 51 Non-Profit of the Year

Jewish Family Services Los Angeles is a non-profit organization that provides life-saving services to all people in the greater LA area. This includes addressing food insecurity, providing shelter and counseling for those impacted by domestic violence, mental health resources, aging, special needs care, and much more. I was honored to choose JFSLA, and JFSLA Senior Director of Public Policy & Community Engagement Nancy Volpert, as my 2023 California Nonprofit of the Year Honoree. I also took some time out to visit the Gunther-Hirsch Family Center to meet with Holocaust survivors, and the volunteers that help make these services possible.



Naming my good friend Nancy Volpert as JFSLA's recipient of District 51's Non-Profit of the Year.



Touring Jewish Family Services LA's Gunther-Hirsch Center.



Meeting with one of the many Holocaust Survivors who have found community at the Gunther-Hirsch Center.



My staff gets their picture taken with Nancy Volpert of JFSLA.



# CELEBRATING SMALL BUSINESSES

## Ensuring a Thriving Small Business Community

Small businesses and their owners play a crucial role in building vibrant and thriving communities. They contribute to local economies by generating jobs, fostering entrepreneurship, and driving innovation. Small businesses are the heart and soul of our communities. I've met with the Santa Monica, Hollywood and West Hollywood Chambers of Commerce in the last few months to learn about the unique challenges faced in each community.



Discussing pressing issues on a panel with Hollywood's Chamber of Commerce.

# 4th of July Parade!

## A Santa Monica Tradition Returns Post-Pandemic

I celebrated our nation's Independence with the Santa Monica community this year, riding in the 4th of July Parade, organized by the Ocean Park Association and City of Santa Monica. This year's event was especially exciting considering it was the first parade since 2019. While at the Parade, I got to meet many constituents and catch up with the Santa Monica Democratic Club and the North of Montana Association.



Riding with my friend and Public Policy Specialist Erick Matos, with my District Director Robert Oliver at the wheel.



Meeting with NOMA (North of Montana Association) to learn more about their efforts in Santa Monica.



Chatting with Santa Monica Democratic Club members (both two-legged and four-legged).



# PRIDE MONTH

## Celebrating our LGBTQ+ Constituents

Every June the LGBTQ+ community celebrate Pride Month. I had the honor of recognizing the first California state agency to raise the Progress Pride Flag - the California Department of Education.

I'm proud to represent Assembly District 51, where approximately 25% of my community identifies as LGBTQ+. I am also proud that the two largest Pride Parades are in my district, in Hollywood and West Hollywood.



I joined fellow Assemblymembers Blanca Pacheco and Laura Friedman to celebrate WeHo Pride!



State Sen. Ben Allen and I honored the Jewish LGBTQ+ community.

# PRIDE MONTH

## Recognizing the Progress We've Made

The California State Assembly held its own Pride Ceremony. I was thrilled to present Equality California's Executive Director Tony Hoang as my Pride Month Honoree and to escort the incredible drag performer Valentina.

I also spoke at a ceremony recognizing Ginger Roger's Beach as an LGBTQ+ landmark. Two lifeguard towers were painted in Progress Pride flag colors as a symbol of the beach's significance in Los Angeles.



Walking drag performer Valentina down the California State Assembly Floor.



Presenting my Pride Month Honoree, Equality California's Executive Director Tony Hoang.



Proud to speak alongside LA County Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath at a ceremony recognizing Ginger Roger's Beach on LGBTQ+ people.

# WEST HOLLYWOOD TOWN HALL

## Highlighting My Legislative Priorities



A big thanks to the City of West Hollywood for hosting my first Town Hall Tuesday, July 18, where I got to share my legislative priorities with the community, and hear about the issues impacting my constituents.

# Assemblymember Robert Rivas Sworn in as Speaker of the Assembly

I was proud to be one of only four Assemblymembers chosen by Speaker Rivas to introduce him during his swearing-in ceremony. I have personally witnessed our new Speaker stand up for LGBTQ+ rights when it was not the popular choice, and I have no doubt he will lead with courage and humility while addressing climate change, reproductive health care rights, housing, and the key challenges impacting California.



# *A Message on my Fight to Support & Protect our LGBTQ+ and Trans Communities*



As LGBTQ+ rights across the country come under attack, from book bans to outlawing instruction on sexual orientation and gender identity in schools, California is leading the way in preserving the rights of LGBTQ+ students across the state. While the state is making progress, LGBTQ+ students still experience harassment, violence and lack of affirmation in school settings far too often.

This is why I introduced the Safe and Supportive Schools Act on my first day in the State Assembly. AB 5 provides high quality, professional development opportunities to educators in order to help foster inclusive classroom environments and appropriately address the unique challenges that LGBTQ+ and all students face. The bill will help yield significant benefits for educators that directly transfer to the success of LGBTQ+ students and advance overall educational outcomes. Thank you, Governor Gavin Newsom for signing this bill into law.

#PrideInEducation

# AB 5

## The Safe and Supportive Schools Act



ASSEMBLY MEMBER  
**Rick Chavez Zbur**  
ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 51

AB5: Safe and Supportive Schools Act

# ENSURES

Teachers and certificated staff serving grades 7 - 12 complete annual trainings to better serve LGBTQ+ and all students.

AB5: Safe and Supportive Schools Act

# TRAINING FOR TEACHERS & STAFF

Assures safe and supportive learning environments.

AB5: Safe and Supportive Schools Act

# SUPPORTS ALL STUDENTS

- › Students with intersecting identities, students of color and immigrants.
- › Targets youth who are at risk of bullying and lack of acceptance at home.
- › Provides education about support services to youth, including counseling services.

AB5: Safe and Supportive Schools Act

# RAISES AWARENESS OF



School antibullying and antiharassment policies.



Suicide prevention policies.



Fair use of school facilities, including bathrooms and locker rooms.

AB5: Safe and Supportive Schools Act

**82%** of LGBTQ+ students report feeling unsafe in school.

**58%** of LGBTQ+ students report hearing homophobic remarks from their teachers.

**59%** of LGBTQ+ students experience discriminatory school policies.



# My Team is Here to Help You Providing Resources for Constituents

My office is here to help constituents with issues related to state agencies. For example, we can assist when a resident needs help contacting the Employment Development Department (EDD), has a complicated DMV case that requires escalation, or would like to check the status of a license. Though we cannot promise an outcome or overturn department decisions, we will always act as constituent advocates and ensure every case gets the attention it deserves. Our office has assisted hundreds of constituents with state agencies and resources.

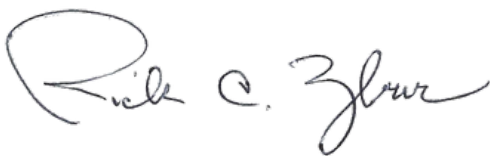
***Please reach out to my office for assistance at:  
(323) 436-5184 if we can be of service.***

You can also reach out directly to a member of my district staff:

- Robert Oliver, District Director, [Robert.Oliver@asm.ca.gov](mailto:Robert.Oliver@asm.ca.gov)
- Sherwin Shamoeil, Field Representative, [Sherwin.Shamoeil@asm.ca.gov](mailto:Sherwin.Shamoeil@asm.ca.gov)
- Joshua Marin-Mora, Field Representative, [Joshua.MarinM@asm.ca.gov](mailto:Joshua.MarinM@asm.ca.gov)

We have a beautiful and diverse district, and I look forward to getting to know and work with each and every one of its vibrant neighborhoods. It is truly an honor and a privilege to serve the residents of AD-51, and I look forward to continuing our work together.

Sincerely,



**RICK CHAVEZ ZBUR**

***Democratic Caucus Chair of the  
California State Assembly  
Assemblymember, 51st District***

