

**STAFF ROSTER**

[Cine D. Ivery - Chief of Staff](#)

**Capitol Office**

[Katherine Agard - Consultant](#)

[Stan DiOrio - Legislative Director](#)

[Elane Douglas - Managing Assistant](#)

[Jennifer Hanson - Director of Communications](#)

[Rozanne Jones - Scheduler /Executive Assistant](#)

[Julius McIntyre – Legislative Black Caucus Consultant](#)

[Emily Rice - Legislative Aide](#)

**Inglewood District Office**

[Cazzie Burns - District Rep](#)

[Samahndi Cunningham - Scheduler](#)

[Alma Marquez - District Rep](#)

[Bill Orton - District Rep](#)

[Bernard Tolliver - District Rep](#)

**Greetings!**

This E-Newsletter covers the events I shared with 35<sup>th</sup> District residents in August through October of 2013, including back-to-school events and a special opportunity to honor Mrs. Rachel Robinson, wife of the late civil rights icon Jackie Robinson.

Our next E-Newsletter in the New Year will cover the events of late 2013 and provide a glimpse of the legislative plans and priorities for 2014.

In recent days, we have lost a great world leader in Nelson Mandela, and several pillars of our local community as well. Thoughts and prayers go out to their families and all who loved them as we remember them during this holiday season.

As always, thank you for reading, and for your support as your State Senator.



Wright celebrates the 95<sup>th</sup> birthday of Nelson Mandela in July of this year.

**Roderick D. Wright**  
 Senator, 35<sup>th</sup> District

***In this issue...***

- Honoring Rachel Robinson
- CLBC scholarship winners
- Hawaiian Avenue education grant
- Anne Frank exhibit opening
- Torrance Small Business Seminar
- Wright legislation signed in 2013
- Lillian Kawasaki memorial
- Markeis Vonreعه Parish memorial
- Welcoming new Compton councilmembers
- Centinela 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Health Fair
- Briefing Cal Chamber HR executives
- Carson 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Parade
- La Tijera K-8 Fun Run/Walk
- Little Green Fingers community garden
- Newest member of Team Wright
- Community Spotlight: Wilmington
- March on Washington 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
- Miss Compton 2013 Pageant
- Watts Summer Festival
- West Athens Community Taskforce
- Addressing the Torrance City Council
- L.A. Waterfront Festival
- Compton National Night Out
- 64<sup>th</sup> AD Business 2 Business Breakfast
- Back-to-School events for 2013
- SCLARC Legacy Plaza groundbreaking
- L.A. apartment association breakfast
- Meeting with Watts Gang Taskforce



**Wright stands with Rachel Robinson in his Sacramento Office, beneath a poster for the movie "42."**

which she founded a year after her husband's untimely death to honor his legacy by supporting higher education for youth in underserved communities.

After the recognition events at the Capitol, Robinson greeted an excited crowd at the Crest Theater prior to a special screening of the movie "42" and received a very warm reception from those gathered. Wright, CLBC Chair and then-Assemblywoman Holly Mitchell, Sacramento Mayor Kevin Johnson and Sacramento City Councilman Allen Warren also addressed the group before the movie's start. Once the lights went down, there were few dry eyes in the house.

While tickets to the screening of "42" were free of charge – with many being distributed to Sacramento area high school students – Robinson's visit to Sacramento drew more than \$100,000 in contributions to the Jackie Robinson Foundation to continue its much-heralded work.



## Wright, CLBC honor Rachel Robinson for unwavering support of higher education

In September, Senator Wright had the great privilege of honoring Mrs. Rachel Robinson, wife of baseball and civil rights icon Jackie Robinson, for her leadership in founding the Jackie Robinson Foundation (JRF).

Since 1973, more than 1,400 students have been afforded a four-year college education through the Foundation. While most scholarships are purely monetary, Jackie Robinson Scholars receive a comprehensive set of support services, including mentoring, internship placement and career guidance, that have led to an almost 100% graduation rate.

"Because of Jackie Robinson, little boys from South Central to South Korea share the same dream of playing professional baseball. Because of him, Little Leaguers from the United States, Mexico and Japan can come together over their love of the game. And because of Jackie's wife's outstanding efforts to honor his legacy, those same little boys can realize the dream of getting a college education and becoming whatever they strive to be," said Wright.

Wright and the California Legislative Black Caucus recognized Robinson in both houses of the Legislature for her work with JRF,



**Then-Assemblywoman Holly Mitchell, JRF President and CEO Della Britton Baeza, Sacramento Councilman Allen Warren, Assemblyman Isadore Hall, Rachel Robinson, Wright, Sacramento Mayor Kevin Johnson, JRF Board Member Darius Anderson and Assemblyman Steven Bradford stand outside the Crest Theater.**

## Wright meets with CLBC scholarship recipients

Senator Wright met in his District Office in Inglewood with the 35th Senate District's two 2013 California Legislative Black Caucus Scholarship recipients, Robin Green and Deion Goodrich, where they discussed their plans for college and the future. Each received a \$2,500 scholarship and an HP laptop to help with their studies. Congratulations and best of luck to the both of them!

**Left: Wright stands with CLBC scholars Robin Green and Deion Goodrich.**

## Wilmington school gets \$5K Barona grant

Senator Wright presented Principal Luis Rivera of Hawaiian Avenue Elementary School in Wilmington with a giant check, representing a \$5,000 Barona Education Grant the school has received. The opening of Harry Bridges Span School took a great deal of pressure off enrollment at the campus, which was designed to serve up to 1,100 students and currently has about 650 students.



**Wright presents Barona grant check to Principal Rivera.**

## Anne Frank exhibit opening celebrated



**Local leaders take in Anne Frank exhibit.**

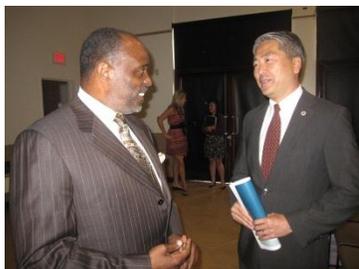
World of Anne Frank" at the Museum of Tolerance. A parade of speakers marked the occasion, made possible through a two-million-dollar budget allocation authored by Lieu.

Senator Wright joined Governor Jerry Brown, Senators Ted Lieu and Kevin de Leon, Assemblymember Richard Bloom and Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti for the opening of the exhibit "Anne: The

## Wright co-hosts small business seminar

Senator Wright co-sponsored a Small Business Seminar hosted by Board of Equalization Chairman Jerome Horton at the Ken Miller Recreation Center in Torrance, speaking to the 200 business people gathered about how the wealth of the state depends on them and the success of enterprise.

Senator Ted Lieu and Assemblyman Al Muratsuchi also spoke, as did officials from BOE, Franchise Tax Board, Employment Development Department and the Internal Revenue Service. Panelists also answered specific questions, and Wright's office staffed a busy community information resource booth.



**Wright chats with Assembly Member Muratsuchi.**

## Senator Wright reflects on 2013 legislative victories

October was the last chance for the Governor to sign or veto measures passed by the California Legislature in 2013, and Senator Wright had an impressive number of measures signed into law. These included a first-of-its-kind measure to protect juveniles from having their futures marred by being incorrectly labeled as gang members, as well as a bill to help keep legal guns from falling into the hands of felons or the mentally ill.

"The bills we had signed into law this year represent a wide range of issues, from workplace and consumer protections, to enhanced public safety," said Wright. "I am also proud to continue my record of supporting an environment that promotes economic development in the 35<sup>th</sup> Senate District. I look forward to getting back to Sacramento in January to continue to fight for a strong economy that supports both small business and a vibrant, successful workforce."

### PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY

**SB 60 – Human Trafficking:** Adds victims of human trafficking to the list of those eligible to receive assistance through the California Victim Compensation Program, which covers such expenses as medical and psychological help and job retraining.

**SB 129 – PUC Hearing Devices Program:** Extends by six years the sunset on the Deaf and Disabled Telecommunications Program under the Public Utilities Commission, allowing thousands of deaf or disabled Californians to communicate through the use of specialized telephone equipment and communication services.

**SB 363 – Gun possession:** Requires gun owners who reasonably believe they live with someone who is prohibited from owning a firearm to store their guns safely, just as they are already required to do if there is a child in the home.

**SB 458 – Gang Database:** Requires that parents be notified if their child is enrolled in a gang database by law enforcement, giving them the opportunity to seek help for a child who is headed down the wrong path, or to clear the name of a child who has been incorrectly identified as belonging to a gang.

*(2013 Legislative Victories, Continued on Page 8)*

### **Community mourns Lillian Kawasaki, leader on air and water quality initiatives**

Senator Wright joined local leaders in attending a memorial for Lillian Kawasaki, a veteran Los Angeles city administrator who spear-headed major initiatives to protect air and water quality as the first head of the Environmental Affairs Department. Kawasaki passed away after a two-year battle with cancer. Wright provided a memorial resolution for her family members.



**Lillian Kawasaki**

### **Wright attends services for Parish, Inglewood High School student killed in hit-and-run**



**Senator Wright speaks during services for Markeis Vonreece Parish at Zion Hill Baptist Church.**

Senator Wright joined a capacity crowd at memorial services for Markeis Vonreece Parish, an 18-year-old student at Inglewood High School whose life was tragically cut short by a hit-and-run driver as he

crossed the street in Hyde Park. Parish was a gifted athlete who excelled at basketball, volleyball and track, and he was well-loved by his classmates and fellow congregants at Zion Hill Baptist Church, where services were held. Senator Wright gave heartwarming remarks and presented Parish's family with a memorial certificate.

### **Wright welcomes Compton councilmembers**

Senator Wright addressed a recent Compton City Council meeting, officially welcoming new Council Member Isaac Galvan and Mayor Aja Brown. He gave the Council an update on efforts to dissolve Redevelopment Agency (RDA) properties and get the city back face value for those properties. Wright also gave a brief history lesson, talking about some of the notable people who hail from the City of Compton.



**Wright speaks with residents after the Compton City Council meeting.**

### **Senator takes part in Centinela Health Fair**



**Inglewood Councilman George Dotson, Wright, Linda Bradley and Mayor James Butts.**

Senator Wright attended Centinela Hospital Medical Center's 4th Annual Health and Safety Fair, presenting a certificate to CEO Linda Bradley, who thanked him for his continued support of the hospital. Some 400 people attended the event, which featured 40 vendor and information booths – including one from Wright's office – as well as live performers.

### **HR execs talk manufacturing, lost CA revenue**

Senator Wright addressed a group of human resources executives at the California Chamber of Commerce's Human Resource Executive Retreat. Wright told representatives of several major corporations that California must do more to promote manufacturing. Los Angeles, he said, once led the world in the manufacture of jetliners, appliances and other goods. Now, manufacturers are opting for other states, he said, with the result being a shrinking tax base and lost sales tax revenue. The answer, he added, is less regulation and smarter industrial policies. Wright has worked closely with the Chamber and manufacturing companies searching for bipartisan solutions to California's economic challenges.



**Wright addresses HR professionals at the CalChamber executive retreat.**

## Wright rides in Carson's 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Parade

Senator Wright participated in the City of Carson's 45th Anniversary Parade, riding in the procession and meeting with residents and his fellow parade entrants. Kevin Nash of radio station 102.3 KJLH served as the Celebrity Grand Marshall of the well-attended community event.



Right: Wright with Kevin Nash of 102.3 KJLH.



Wright with Ugema James and IUSD Trustee Don Brann.

## La Tijera K-8 hosts Fun Run

Senator Wright attended the La Tijera K-8 School Fun Run/Walk, where Olympian Althea Moses spoke to students about fitness and about the Althea Moses Health & Fitness Company. Students took part in the event by grade level throughout the day, with some also walking once school let out for the day. Wright spoke to the students and presented Principal Ugema James with a certificate to memorialize the fun fitness event.

## West Athens celebrates new community garden

Senator Wright greeted attendees of the grand opening for the Little Green Fingers community garden in West Athens, which he praised for providing healthy food choices for the West Athens community. Wright presented a certificate to recognize the efforts of those who made the garden possible. The grand opening celebration had a good turnout of community residents and West Athens Community Taskforce members.



Conservation Corps director Bruce Saito, a conservation corps worker and Alina Bokde with Wright.

## Community Spotlight: Wilmington

Wilmington is a community of over 51,000 people which, along with neighboring San Pedro, forms the Port of Los Angeles waterfront. Once its own city, Wilmington was annexed to Los Angeles in 1909 under the threat that L.A. would otherwise build its own port in Harbor City.

Wilmington is heavily industrial and is adjacent to the world's third-largest oil field, in addition to multiple refineries. The Phillips 66 refinery is home to the "world's largest jack-o'-lantern," a three million gallon storage tank decorated for Halloween each year since 1952.

The community also features six parks, including the 30-acre Wilmington Waterfront Park opened in 2011.

The home of Phinneas Banning, who founded the City of Wilmington in 1863 and is considered the "Father of the Port" is now The Banning Museum. The 23-room Victorian mansion, with 20 acres of surrounding parkland, is now undergoing renovations for a celebration of its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2014, but it is still open to the public.

Wilmington was also the U.S. Army headquarters for Southern California and the Arizona Territory during the Civil War and the point from which U.S. soldiers were sent to foreign battle zones during World War II. The early days of the community's military history are memorialized in the Drum Barracks Civil War Museum, housed in the last of the original buildings and now featuring a park dedicated in December of 2013.



Phillips 66 refinery in Wilmington.



Julius McIntyre

## Team Wright welcomes new member

Senator Wright recently welcomed to his team Julius McIntyre, who serves as his consultant to the California Legislative Black Caucus, of which Wright is vice chair. Julius previously worked at the Department of General Services as a Team Leader in the Office of Public School Construction, assisting school districts with State Allocation Board funding for school facilities. In addition to embarking on a new career path, Julius and his wife Alicia are also proud new parents to their first son, Jayson!

## Wright celebrates March on Washington 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in L.A., Sacramento

Senator Wright was proud to participate in events celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the March on Washington and Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech in both the District and the California State Capitol. In Sacramento, members of the California Legislative Black Caucus were joined by the NAACP's Alice Huffman and AFSCME's Willie Pelote for a moving ceremony on the South Steps of the State Capitol, at which Senator Wright quoted from Oscar Brown, Jr.'s acclaimed poem, "40 Acres and a Mule."



Photo by Hector Navejas

Wright gives a rousing speech on the Capitol steps.

Back home in Los Angeles, more than 400 people came out to Leimert Park for an early celebration attended by leaders from throughout the L.A. region. Senator Wright spoke to the large crowd gathered in celebration and provided certificates to thank the Southern Christian Leadership Conference of Southern California, the NAACP of Los Angeles, the New Frontier Democratic Club and the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor for making the event possible.

### Miss Compton Pageant

Senator Wright attended the Miss Compton Pageant at the Carson Community Center, presenting a certificate to pageant executive director and 2010 winner Shanice McKinley, an MBA from University of Redlands whose goal is to open a youth center and be a good role model who encourages inner city youth to pursue higher education.



Wright with Shanice McKinley.

### Community gathers for Watts Summer Festival



Wright speaks at Watts festival.

Senator Wright addressed the crowd gathered at the Watts Summer Festival, telling guests about the event's history and presenting Lionel Rookard with a certificate to honor him for his work in the Watts Community. The Senator received a standing ovation from the crowd when he once again recited Oscar Brown, Jr.'s "40 Acres and a Mule."

### Wright visits West Athens Taskforce

Senator Wright made two visits to the West Athens Community Taskforce in recent months. At the first, he gave residents an update on the State Budget, particularly education and the local funding formula. He also fielded questions and let taskforce members know about the back-to-school events nearest to them. At the second meeting, Senator Wright spoke with Yasmin Delahoussaye, interim president of Southwest College, and encouraged taskforce members to utilize the local college for personal growth and career enhancement and encourage community youth to do the same.



LAUSD's Marylin Williams talks with Wright.

### Wright addresses Torrance Council

Senator Wright briefly appeared before the Torrance City Council. In his remarks to the body, Wright gave a rundown on the State Budget, spoke about the temporary reprieve given to regional occupation centers and thanked Mayor Frank Scotto for joining him in the fight to save redevelopment.



Pat Furey and Wright.

## L.A. Waterfront Festival draws thousands

Thousands of people came out to celebrate the 125th anniversary of the founding of San Pedro with some good family fun at the L.A. Waterfront Summer Festival. Senator Wright presented a resolution to Eric Eisenberg, president of the San Pedro Historic Waterfront Business Improvement District. The SPHWBID, a group of downtown business owners who tax themselves to fund security, clean-up and information guides in downtown, threw the well-attended festival. Wright's staff also manned a community information resource booth at the event.



**Wright presents a resolution to Eric Eisenberg.**

## Compton celebrates National Night Out



**Wright, DJ Roc and Compton Sheriff Capt. Leonard McCray.**

Senator Wright joined hundreds of residents and community leaders for the National Night Out event held in the Target parking lot in Compton. The event, put on by the Compton Sheriff's Department to show residents how they can be part of deterring crime, featured a fun night of food, dancing and demonstrations by the Compton

Fire Department. Wright presented certificates to Target and to DJ Troy "Roc" Peebles. Attendees included Compton Mayor Aja Brown and Councilmembers Janna Zurita and Isaac Galvan.

## Wright opens 64<sup>th</sup> AD business breakfast

Senator Wright once again participated in Assemblyman Isadore Hall's 64th AD Business 2 Business Breakfast, held at CSU Dominguez Hills. Wright, who last year gave the keynote address, this year gave the opening remarks to the group of local business leaders – talking about the connection and differences



**Wright and Senator Padilla listen to business breakfast speakers.**

between the role of business and the role of government -- and introduced keynote speaker Senator Alex Padilla. Wright's office also staffed a booth with community resource information at the event.

*(2013 Legislative Victories, Continued from Page 3)*

### CONSUMER & WORKER PROTECTION

**SB 390 – Labor Violations:** Closes a loophole in the law to make it a violation for an employer to fail to remit to the proper agency money which they withheld from employees for local, state or federal taxes, etc.

**SB 496 – Whistleblower Protection:** Closes loopholes to improve worker protections for public employees who disclose improper governmental activity.

**SB 530 – Expungement of Criminal Records:** Improves and expands the existing expungement statutes to protect Californians from employment discrimination based on prior misdemeanor convictions.

**SB 546 – School Employee Termination Form:** Removed from school district personnel forms language that was considered inflammatory by employees.

**SB 656 – PUC:** Protects consumers from unscrupulous third-party natural gas providers and provides remedy through the Public Utilities Commission.

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

**SB 324 – Inglewood Forum Tied-House Exception:** Extends an existing "tied-house" exception within the Alcoholic Beverage Control Act to allow the owners of the Forum in the City of Inglewood to develop sponsorships with various beverage manufacturers and distributors.

**SB 470 – Economic Development:** Returns authority to local government, in the wake of the loss of Redevelopment, to engage in economic development activities using local funds. This bill will help cities and counties create jobs, support transit-oriented development, assist with affordable housing and generally work to increase tax revenues through economic development.

### DISTRICT FUNDING FORMULAS

**SB 41 – Wiseburn School District Loan:** Eliminates a special funding school formula contained in the original legislation, last year's SB 477, at the request of the Governor. The change allows the district's unification revenue limit to be calculated in the same manner as other school district unifications.

**SB 620 - Water Replenishment District:** Temporarily lifts a requirement that the Water Replenishment District of Southern California spend 80% of its reserve on water purchases, and increases an outdated penalty limit on water-producing facilities which was set in 1961 and is insufficient to incentivize facilities to comply with the law. Together, these actions will work to reduce operating costs and improve cost efficiencies.

## 35<sup>th</sup> Senate District preps youth for start of 2013-14 school year!



Senator Wright attended the Carson Back to School Giveaway (*pictured at left*) at CSU Dominguez Hills, one of several events in the 35<sup>th</sup> Senate District through which his office helped to ensure kids in the community started the school year prepared and in good health. Wright's office staffed a community information resource booth at the event, distributing book bags, ID kits and activity books, and Wright helped hand out raffle items to some lucky students.

Later that same day, Senator Wright attended the Children's Institute 2013 Back 2 School Giveaway (*pictured at right*). More than 5,000 people registered for this

event. Wright gave the Children's Institute and the Philanthropic Society of Los Angeles certificates of thanks for their support of the Watts community.



Some 400 people benefitted from the annual One for All Back to School Event in Inglewood, which featured a school supply giveaway, informational booths, food and games. Senator Wright presented One for All executive director and 2009 Woman of Distinction Mari Morales (*pictured at left*) with a Senate certificate for her efforts.

Senator Wright also attended the Mothers in Action 15th Annual Back to School Health Family Festival (*right*), greeting attendees and encouraging them to take advantage of the health screenings available to them.

Wright's office staffed a community information resource booth at the event and helped hand out school supplies to more than 250 attendees.



Wright's office also joined with Councilman Herb Wesson and 101 Enterprises for a back-to-school event (*left*) at Rancho Cienega Park, helping them distribute supplies to over 300 community youth.

## COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Please don't hesitate to contact our Inglewood District Office if you require assistance in any of these areas:

- Medi-Cal
- Auto insurance
- Consumer complaints
- Unemployment insurance
- Child support and child care
- Disability insurance
- Department of Motor Vehicles
- Workers' compensation
- Franchise Tax Board
- Government forms and applications
- Complaints about state departments
- Small business assistance

If you have an idea for a local project, or have a problem with a state or local agency that is not getting solved, our office can also:

- Mediate between you and government agencies or offices;
- Assist you in obtaining funding for local projects, such as bikeways, parks, schools, or senior citizen programs;
- Bring state experts into your community for technical assistance or advice on local issues;
- Help communicate your concerns to local, state and federal officials;
- Bring state administrators into your community so they hear first-hand about local needs;
- Visit your neighborhood or group to discuss state legislation or programs.

### L.A. breaks ground for new regional center headquarters

Senator Wright took part in a groundbreaking for the new headquarters of the private, non-profit South Central Los Angeles Regional Center (SCLARC) at Legacy Plaza. The state's 21 regional centers provide assessment, advocacy, referrals and a wide range of life-long support services for the developmentally disabled. The new facility will have room for SCLARC's 250 employees, 100 consultants and the center's 11,500-plus consumers and their families.



Malcolm Bennett, former US. Treasurer Rosario Marin, Assemblyman Reggie Jones-Sawyer, SCLARC Pres. Lisa Sanchez, Wright and CEO Dexter Henderson at SCLARC groundbreaking.



Wright talks with a member of the CA Apartment Association of Los Angeles after the group's leadership breakfast.

### Wright addresses L.A. apartment association leadership breakfast

Senator Wright attended the California Apartment Association of Los Angeles' Inaugural Legislative District Leadership Breakfast, held at the Beverly Garland Hotel in North Hollywood. Approximately nine other legislators and their staff members also participated, giving association members updates on their pending legislation and hearing about the Association's plans moving forward.

### Wright visits Watts taskforce

Senator Wright met with members of the Watts Gang Taskforce, briefing them on prison overcrowding and the possibility of sending more inmates to private and out-of-state prisons. He challenged taskforce members to encourage community youth and help them find positive direction, whether that be toward college, trade school or gainful employment.



Wright addresses the Watts Gang Taskforce.

## California State Senator Roderick D. Wright – District 35

Senator Wright represents the communities of Alondra Park, Carson, Compton, East Carson, East Compton, Gardena, Harbor City, Hawthorne, Inglewood, Lawndale, Lennox, Long Beach, Rancho Dominguez, San Pedro, South Los Angeles, Torrance, Watts, West Athens, West Carson, West Compton, Willowbrook and Wilmington.

Capitol Office  
State Capitol, Room 2032  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
P: 916-651-4035  
F: 916-651-4935

Website: <http://www.senate.ca.gov/wright>  
E-mail: [Senator Roderick D. Wright](mailto:Senator.Roderick.D.Wright)

District Office  
One Manchester Blvd., #600  
Inglewood, CA 90301  
P: 310-412-0393  
F: 310-412-0996