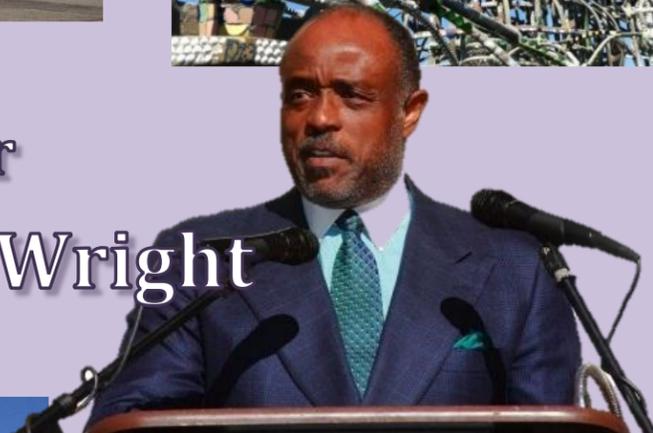


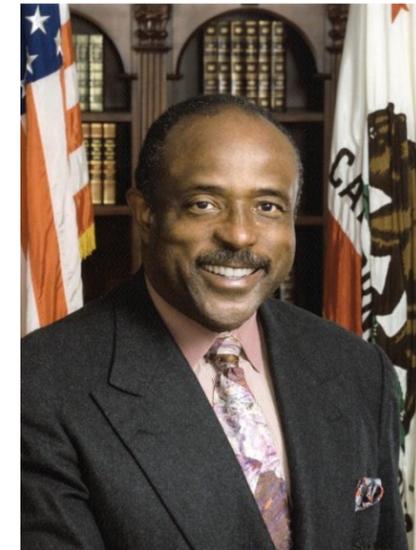
35th State Senate District Legislative Highlights



Senator
Roderick D. Wright



Representing the cities and 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.



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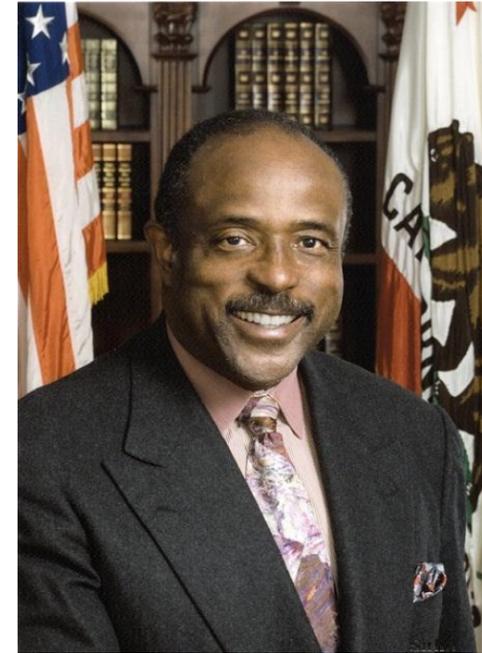
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	Welcome Letter from Senator Roderick D. Wright
2-3	2013 Legislative Summary Vietnam Veterans of America Legislator of the Year Nelson Mandela Honored on 95 th Birthday
4-5	Women of Distinction
6	Legislature Honors Rachel Robinson & Myrlie Evers
7	Quincy Jones & Herbie Hancock Honored in State Capitol
8-9	2012 Legislative Summary SBACC 'Shaun Lumachi' Legislator of the Year 35 th Senate District Education Summit
10-11	Student Honors Luncheon
12	CA Small Business Association Awards
13	CIF Track Champions Recognized
14-15	2011 Legislative Summary League of California Cities Legislator of the Year Garner Highway Dedication
16-17	School Readiness and Health Fair
18-19	2010 Legislative Summary Fathers and Families Senator of the Year "Grow Your Exports" Seminar
20-21	Operation Gobble and Holiday Celebration & Toy Giveaway
22-23	2009 Legislative Summary Manufacturers' Legislator of the Year Tomorrow's Aeronautical Museum Trip
24	Wright Fights to Prevent Senior Scams
25	Community Events and Resources



Greetings!

I want to thank all of you for your continued support during my years representing you in the California State Senate thus far. I would like to share with you the legislation and events that have highlighted this period, as I prepare for the legislative battles that lay ahead.

I am proud of the battles we have fought together to improve the quality of life for people in our community.

The issues have ranged from a better construction permit process to jump-start the stalled construction industry in

Southern California, to legislation to help keep foster youth from unnecessary school transfers that hinder their education.

I enjoy the opportunity to interact with the residents of my District to continue to learn which issues matter most to you. Each year we celebrate our wonderful "Women of Distinction" and recognize the district's top performing students. We also acknowledge many other wonderful members of our community in townhall meetings that I host, as well as meetings, celebrations and retirements that I attend throughout the year.

This report contains many of the stories and experiences of my district events, along with the highs and lows of my legislative battles and victories. Thank you so much for reading this report and for your support as your State Senator.



A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Roderick D. Wright".

Roderick D. Wright
California State Senator,
35th District

Senator Wright's legislative highlights for 2013 include...

- ❖ Returned authority to local government, in the wake of the loss of Redevelopment, to engage in economic development activities using local funds; the measure will help cities and counties create jobs, support transit-oriented development and assist with affordable housing. **(SB 470)**
- ❖ Gave parents and law enforcement an opportunity to help children who are becoming involved with gangs, or to clear the names of those who are falsely accused of gang affiliation, by requiring parental notification when a minor is added to the CalGang Database. **(SB 458)**
- ❖ Helped keep legal guns from falling into unsafe hands by establishing that gun owners who live with someone they reasonably believe is prohibited from owning a firearm must store their guns safely, just as they are required to do if there are children in the home. **(SB 363)**
- ❖ Closed legal loopholes to improve worker protections for "whistleblowers" -- public employees who disclose improper governmental activity. **(SB 496)**
- ❖ Added victims of the crime 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 60)**



Wright honors Mandela

Senator Wright joined Congresswoman Maxine Waters and supporters of the Los Angeles Free South Africa Movement she founded in celebrating the life and legacy of Nobel Prize winner Nelson Mandela on his 95th birthday. As the famed civil rights icon struggled with health issues, hundreds gathered to wish him all the best and thank him for his many contributions to society. In remarks to the crowd enjoying a festive celebration at Leimert Park, Wright talked about Mandela's visit to the Los Angeles area some 23 years ago, when 90,000 people came out to see him. Local churches also held services celebrating Mandela's life.

Vietnam Veterans of America thank Wright for fighting for the rights of military parents



In March of 2013, Senator Wright was presented with a plaque honoring him as Legislator of the Year for the prior year's Legislative Session by the Vietnam Veterans of America-California State Council.

The award recognized Wright for leading the fight "for equality in family law for military parents who have faced the loss of child custody rights when called up for active duty on short notice."

The organization also thanked Wright for his strong support of veterans' outreach events in his community, such as staffing booths with valuable information on available state and community resources at events focused on veterans. Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA) is the only national Vietnam veterans' organization congressionally chartered and exclusively dedicated to Vietnam-era veterans and their families.

Wright receives the Legislator of the Year award from leaders of the Vietnam Veterans of America-California State Council.

- ❖ Sought to restore protections for those discriminated against in employment or housing, as well as their ability to seek redress, which were weakened by a CA Supreme Court decision. **(SB 655)**
- ❖ Protected employees from unscrupulous employers who fail to remit to the proper agencies money withheld from worker pay for local, state or federal taxes, etc. **(SB 390)**
- ❖ Worked to require the California Science Center (CSC) to establish minimum and maximum parking rates and to keep CSC from delegating management of its parking facilities, selling them or leasing them for more than ten years without Legislative approval. **(SB 695)**

For more information on these and other bills by Senator Roderick D. Wright, please visit: <http://sd35.senate.ca.gov/legislation>.

Wright celebrates “Women of Distinction” for their many contributions to the District

Moms to managers, educators to engineers, honorees go above and beyond...



Giselle Carol Raines Brown, nominated in 2009 by the Inglewood Airport Area Chamber of Commerce, with Senator Wright and the Chamber’s executive director, Shannon Howe.

While many legislators choose to honor a single “Woman of the Year” each year in Sacramento, Senator Wright has taken great pride in annually honoring dozens of “Women of Distinction” from cities throughout the Senate District for their service, dedication, hard work and unselfish advocacy.

The recognition ceremony always includes an elegant lunch with speakers and entertainment at a great local venue, where each honoree receives a resolution from the California State Senate for her many contributions to her state and her community.



Above: City of Compton WOD Lenore Gibson chats with Senator Wright at the 2010 luncheon.

Right: 51st Assembly District 2012 honoree Sheila Mickelson receives a resolution from Senator Wright.



Above left: Bonnie Coronado, nominated in 2013 by the City of Lawndale, receives a Senate Resolution from Senator Wright. Above right: Fantasia Dance Ensemble entertained the Women of Distinction in 2010.



The more than 100 women honored by Wright have included moms and managers, educators and engineers, all of whom have demonstrated great commitment to their communities.

These accomplished and selfless women were nominated by the cities, chambers of commerce and service clubs within the Senate District for their continued service to a wide variety of causes and charitable organizations.



Above: Compton City Councilwoman Yvonne Arceneaux with 2011 WOD emcee Beverly White of NBC4.



Left: Wright is surrounded by his Women of Distinction honorees for 2013 and emcee Wendy Raquel Robinson at the Torrance Holiday Inn.

Rachel Robinson, Myrlie Evers honored at Capitol

Civil rights heroines dedicated their lives to bettering our communities

Senator Wright and the CA Legislative Black Caucus (CLBC) had the privilege of welcoming Mrs. Rachel Robinson, wife of the late baseball and civil rights icon Jackie Robinson, to the State Capitol. She was honored for her efforts in support of the Jackie Robinson Foundation (JRF), which she founded a year after her husband's untimely death to honor his legacy by supporting higher education for underserved communities.



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.

After the recognition events at the Capitol, Robinson joined more than 800 people for a very special screening of the movie "42" at the Crest Theatre. Once the lights went down, there were few dry eyes in the house.

Since 1973, more than 1,400 students have been afforded a four-year college education through the JRF. 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. Robinson's visit to Sacramento drew more than \$100,000 in contributions to the JRF to continue its much-heralded work.

In recognition of Black History Month 2013, Wright honored another great heroine of the Civil Rights movement – Myrlie Evers – at the California State Capitol in Sacramento. Evers was recognized in both Houses of the Legislature and also met with California Governor Jerry Brown.



On June 12, 1963 – fifty years before her recognition in the State Capitol – Evers' husband, NAACP Field Secretary Medgar Evers, was gunned down in Jackson, Mississippi, leaving Ms. Evers widowed with three children. She emerged from that tragedy to raise their three children, enjoy a long and successful career and continue the fight for Civil Rights for which her husband had given his life.

When the NAACP found itself in dire straits, Ms. Evers assumed leadership of the organization and returned it to prominence and fiscal solvency. At the second Inauguration of President Barack Obama, Evers became the first woman and first layperson to give the Invocation at a Presidential Inauguration.

Left: Wright and Myrlie Evers in his Capitol office.

Wright honors artists Quincy Jones, Herbie Hancock

In years past, Senator Wright has taken the opportunity during Black History Month to honor several other individuals who have contributed immensely to our nation's rich cultural history.

In 2012, Wright paid tribute to the legendary Quincy Jones at the State Capitol, for his many contributions to the world through both music and philanthropy.

In more than a half century in music, Jones has filled the role of trumpeter, arranger, composer, producer, conductor and record company executive. He has since branched out to succeed as a TV and movie producer, magazine founder and multi-media entrepreneur. Jones developed a reputation as an arranger that led him to work with such greats as Ray Charles, Ella Fitzgerald, Dizzie Gillespie, Billie Holiday and Frank Sinatra. Jones produced Michael Jackson's album "Thriller," as well as the single "We Are the World."



Jones addresses the CA Senate.

In 1961, Jones became the first high-level black executive of a major record company. He has scored 33 major motion pictures, another musical arena previously all-but closed to African-Americans. Jones has earned 27 Grammy Awards, an Emmy and seven Oscar nominations.

World-renowned jazz pianist and composer Herbie Hancock was honored in 2011 for his contributions to the music industry and his strong commitment to music education for youth. Since the 1960s, Hancock has performed with the likes of Miles Davis and introduced the world to stars like trumpeter Wynton Marsalis. His impressive body of work has earned him 12 Grammy Awards, as well as an Academy Award for Best Original Score for "Round Midnight."



Hancock receives a Resolution from Wright and members of the CA Legislative Black Caucus on the Senate Floor.

Hancock currently chairs the Thelonius Monk Institute of Jazz, which aims to offer promising young musician's college-level training by America's jazz masters and to present public school-based jazz education programs to young people around the world, all free of charge.

Both Jones and Hancock were honored on the Senate and Assembly Floors, and presented with Senate Resolutions memorializing their many admirable accomplishments and contributions.

Senator Wright's legislative highlights for 2012 include...

- ❖ Fought to strengthen the ability of legitimate small businesses and Disabled Veterans Business Enterprises in California to successfully compete for state contracts. **(SB 1510)**
- ❖ Helped students plan for success in higher education by requiring the California Student Aid Commission to create a searchable on-line database of useful information reported annually by Cal Grant-eligible schools, such as graduation and job placement rates. **(SB 1103)**
- ❖ Championed a measure to allow timely completion of the Los Angeles Regional Interoperable Communication System (LA-RICS) – a modern emergency communications system protecting the region's ten million residents. The action also helped the region preserve \$154.6 million in federal stimulus funds which would have been lost if deadlines were not met. **(AB 1486)**
- ❖ Helped small businesses keep up with the myriad of new regulations by requiring they all be implemented on a set date quarterly and posted on one website. **(SB 1099)**
- ❖ Provided a common sense framework for courts to follow in addressing claims of payroll reporting violations. **(SB 1255)**

Wright hosts 35th Senate District Education Summit

Senator Wright hosted the first 35th Senate District Education Summit, bringing together more than twenty education leaders from his newly-redrawn district – including district superintendents and the chancellor for the Los Angeles Community College District – for a meeting at the Ayers Hotel in Hawthorne. The group was joined by Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson and Senator Carol Liu (D-La Canada Flintridge), chair of the Senate Education Committee, for a discussion of school funding and ways to work together more effectively. Wright hopes their efforts can help districts avoid the financial pitfalls that have caused great struggles for several local districts in this era of budget cuts and declining enrollment.



South Bay Association of Chambers of Commerce honor Wright's leadership

Shaun Lumachi Award memorializes budding young community leader

Wright was honored by the South Bay Association of Chambers of Commerce with the Shaun Lumachi Legislator of the Year Award for 2012, which was presented to him by Senator Ted Lieu (D-Torrance) at the organization's annual installation luncheon. SBACC said it chose to recognize Wright for his record of authoring and supporting pro-business and job-creating legislation.

In 2012, Wright authored SB 1099, which helps small businesses keep up with the myriad of new regulations imposed on them each year. The bill established that such changes would be implemented on set dates quarterly, and that they would also be posted on one website.

The Shaun Lumachi Legislator of the Year Award is named for a budding young community leader who was killed in a tragic accident in 2011 at the age of 33. It was established to recognize those who take a leadership role in representing the interests of the business community in the South Bay. Wright was the award's second recipient.



Wright stands with SBACC chair Joe Ahn after receiving the 2012 Shaun Lumachi Legislator of the Year Award.

- ❖ Simplified the administration of crime victim compensation programs in California, allowing a social worker to file a claim on behalf of a victim of child or elder abuse and increasing the pool of mental health providers available to serve victims. **(SB 1299)**
- ❖ Authorized the state to sell or lease four aging National Guard Armories which had decayed to the point where the cost of their ongoing maintenance outweighed their usefulness to the state for military operations, including the Compton Parmalee Armory. **(SB 1580)**

For more information on these and other bills by Senator Roderick D. Wright, please visit: <http://sd35.senate.ca.gov/legislation>.

Student Honors Luncheon recognizes district students for academics, self-improvement and community service

Essay contest winners earn scholarships for higher education



Senator Wright and Compton Councilman Dr. Willie O. Jones present certificates to bright young 2012 Student Honors Luncheon honorees.

Each May Senator Wright is proud to recognize some of the best and the brightest students in the Senate District at his Student Honors Luncheon, an afternoon of food, prizes, entertainment and the celebration of learning.

Public and private schools from throughout the District nominate graduating elementary, middle, high school and adult school students to be honored based on academic excellence, community service and/or overall self-improvement.

Hundreds of honorees have been recognized at these luncheons during Wright's tenure as a State Senator. Each student receives a certificate, and the opportunity to compete for \$500 scholarships in an essay contest. Prizes, generously donated by local businesses, are raffled off to honorees, including amusement park passes and the latest in high-tech devices.



The 2013 was emceed by the dynamic duo Twin of a Kind – twin sisters Desiree Glover and Erin Green, who are on a mission to share a positive message that boosts youth self-image and battles the negative, sometimes tragic, impacts of bullying.



Above: Wright in 2010 with emcee William Allen Young. Left: Congresswoman Waters addresses students in 2011.

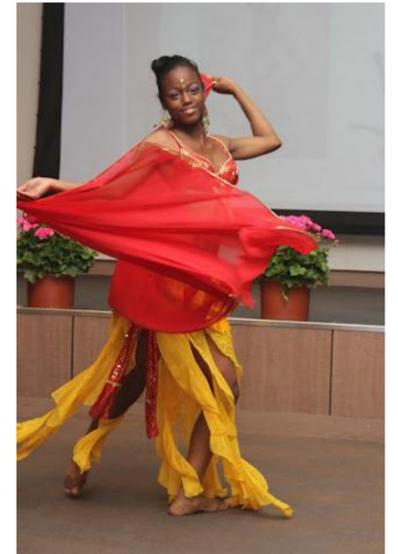
Local community leaders and elected officials were also on-hand to congratulate the students from their districts.

Wright has made honoring top students from his Senate



Brothers Victor and Joseph Ekpo from the Renaissance Arts Academy captivated 2011 attendees with their music.

District a great annual district event, praising the teachers and the actively involved parents who provide the foundation for student success. The annual recognition luncheon serves to honor the students and all of the individuals who give of themselves to contribute to their success in the classroom and in life.



A dance student from CSU Dominguez Hills performs at the 2012 luncheon.



Angela Gibson of AT&T, Michael Harriel of the Southern California Gas Company, Bobby Sears of the South Bay Workforce Investment Board, Compton City Councilmember Lillie Dobson, Senator Wright, Assemblymember Steve Bradford and Gardena City Councilmember Dan Medina present \$500 scholarship checks to 2013 essay contest winners Diamond Moore, Michael Martin, Isabel Marie Monroy, Diana Borja Rodriguez, Karnell Davis, Jr., and Andrew Jimenez.



Wright salutes local small businesses

Each year, Senator Wright selects one of the many outstanding small business owners from the Senate District to recognize with the “Salute to Small Business Award.”

Wright, an ardent supporter of small business, enjoys the opportunity to thank small business leaders for their contributions to the community and California at an annual luncheon hosted by the California Small Business Association.

In 2013, Wright honored Patrick Wilson of Rolling Hills Estates, founder and president of Fast Lane Transportation. A veteran of the U.S. Air Force, Wilson worked his way from truck driver to owner of a trucking company and 50-acre intermodal equipment repair and storage facility. In addition to his work and family responsibilities, Wilson volunteers his time for youth sports and numerous community and non-profit boards.

Senator Wright presents the 2013 “Salute to Small Business Award” to honoree Patrick Wilson of Rolling Hills Estates, founder of Fast Lane Transportation, Inc.

The 2012 honoree was Gardena’s Courtney Matthias, owner of Courtney’s School of Dance. A former Miss Amarillo and contestant for Miss Texas, Matthias performed with the Lone Star Ballet as a child and began teaching dance when she was just 14 years old. Prior to opening her own studio, Matthias was a dancer for arena football leagues and has performed at live events and in videos with top artists and is now working to pass on her love of dance.

In 2011, Wanda Love, owner of My Place Hair Salon in Gardena, was chosen for her business success and many volunteer efforts on behalf of her city and community. Love has provided free services to many in need and serves on several Chambers of Commerce.



Left: Wright with 2012 honoree Courtney Matthias of Courtney’s School of Dance in Gardena. Right: Wright with 2011 honoree Wanda Love, owner of Gardena’s My Place Hair Salon.



In 2010, Wright honored Wanza Tolliver of Tolliver Insurance in Lawndale. Tolliver serves on the Chamber of Commerce, Workforce Investment Board and Community Watch Committee.

In 2009, the award went to Louis Hirsch, who has served as President of Parker Lighting, Inc.,

providing commercial and residential lighting supplies to people in Inglewood since 1977.

Wright honors CIF high school track & field champions



Wright welcomes the girls of Junipero Serra High School to the State Capitol in 2012.

The California State Track and Field Meet is the oldest continuous high school championship event in California. The event was established in 1915 and has produced more Olympic and World Champions than any other high school event in the world.

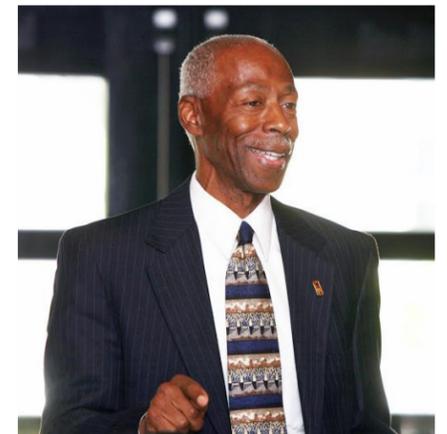
Senator Wright, State Superintendent of Schools Tom Torlakson and Chief Clerk of the Assembly E. Dotson Wilson, all former track athletes themselves, began a tradition in 1999 of honoring the boys’ and girls’ championship teams at the State Capitol each year. Championship team members are taken to lunch, recognized on the Senate Floor and provided with certificates to exchange for championship rings which are not funded at public expense.

In 2013, the boys of Junipero Serra High School in Gardena and the girls of Long Beach Poly High School were victorious. In 2012, it was the girls of Junipero Serra and the boys from Notre Dame High School in Sherman Oaks.

In 2011, the Long Beach Poly Jackrabbits from Wright’s Senate District recorded a historic sweep, winning both the boys’ and girls’ championships. While Poly has now swept both titles in the same year three times, no other school has done this in the event’s 93 years. It was the fourth-straight title for Poly’s girls. In 2010, there was a four-way tie for the boys’ championship between the Cathedral HS Phantoms, Clovis East HS Timberwolves, La Sierra HS Eagles and Frontier HS Eagles. In 2009, the boys’ title went to the Jesuit HS Marauders.



Above: In 2011, the awards ceremony moved to Long Beach when the Jackrabbits swept both the boys’ and girls’ state titles for the third time. No other team has ever won both titles in the same year. Above right: 1972 Olympic gold medalist Eddie Hart addresses the 2013 CIF champions.



Senator Wright's legislative highlights for 2011 include...

- ❖ Fought to create a cost-effective means for people unfairly included in a gang injunction – or who had since turned their lives around – to protest their continued inclusion in the injunction. **(SB 296)**
- ❖ Sought state intervention for the beleaguered Inglewood Unified School District, so teachers and administrators could return their focus to teaching our children. **(SB 477)**
- ❖ Gave the Medical Board authority to provide research and information for doctors to help patients make lifestyle and nutritional changes that can cure and/or prevent many chronic diseases, which disproportionately affect low-income communities, including heart disease and Type-2 diabetes. **(SB 380)**
- ❖ Fought to save redevelopment agencies, a critical tool for developing low-income housing and removing blight, both activities which fuel job creation. **(SB 286)**
- ❖ Did away with statewide inconsistencies in the licensing process for concealed firearms, while ensuring unqualified applicants do not pay exorbitant fees for training before being declined. **(SB 610)**
- ❖ Attempted to protect students with limited English by prohibiting private postsecondary schools from enrolling non-native speakers in courses taught in English unless and until the student passes a proficiency test. **(SB 675)**

Wright names freeway in memory of LAPD veteran



The family of the late LAPD Deputy Chief Kenneth Garner, a 32-year veteran of the local police force and champion for his community, joined LAPD Chief Charlie Beck and Senator Wright in November of 2011 for the unveiling of highway signs that establish the LAPD Deputy Chief Kenneth O. Garner Memorial Exit. Wright renamed the Florence Avenue exits of Highway Route 110 in the late officer's memory through the resolution SCR 106.

Wright named 2011 Legislator of the Year for leading fight to save redevelopment

Wright was widely praised by local elected officials, community leaders and affordable housing advocates from throughout the state for leading the fight to save California's critical redevelopment agencies from elimination. In September of 2011, Wright was named one of the League of California Cities two Legislators of the Year for his efforts.

In lower-income communities, redevelopment is a vital tool for cleaning up blighted properties, building infrastructure and creating affordable housing – all of which generate local jobs and help fuel the economy. Unfortunately, a few bad apples – largely in wealthier communities – cast a shadow over a majority of agencies doing great work.

Wright authored a package of reforms to eliminate the abuse and make elimination of redevelopment agencies unnecessary. He also authored an alternative redevelopment financing proposal that would have created a positive outcome for both local agencies and the state.



Wright was named 2011 Legislator of the Year by the League of California Cities for his efforts to reform and save redevelopment.

- ❖ Attempted to require state agencies to produce an estimate of the compliance costs when adopting, amending or repealing regulations, and require the Legislature be notified if total costs of compliance exceed \$10,000,000. **(SB 688)**
- ❖ Gave public health departments the tools to better serve patients with HIV and their exposed partners, helping improve access to available services. **(SB 422)**
- ❖ Inserted language in the budget to ensure that Cal Grant money goes to schools with acceptable loan repayment rates.

For more information on these and other bills by Senator Roderick D. Wright, please visit: <http://sd35.senate.ca.gov/legislation>.

Thousands receive free school supplies and health screenings at School Readiness and Health Fair



Wright stands with the lucky winners of raffle prizes donated by local businesses in 2012.

During Senator Wright's tenure in the California State Senate, thousands of children from throughout the Senate District have started the school year off right through participation in his annual School Readiness and Health Fair.

Nearly a thousand students converge on Jesse Owens Park each year for the event, presented in conjunction with Los Angeles County Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas and the National Family Life & Education Center.



L.A. rapper Mann performs in 2011.

Participants receive free school supplies - including backpacks, t-shirts and hoodies, as well as health screenings, critical to identifying health issues which could impact a child's school performance, such as a hearing or vision impairment.



Above: Students were encouraged to pursue physical fitness at the 2009 fair.



Right: Members of the Los Angeles Sheriff's Mounted Patrol mingle with participants at the 2010 event.

Over the years, participants in Wright's School Readiness and Health Fair have also enjoyed performances by top-notch entertainers and inspirational talks from professional athletes and community leaders, giving them a positive insight into the value education holds for their future success.

Clockwise from top right: A young 2012 participant, dental hygiene kit in hand, is still smiling after his check-up and vaccinations; Free dental check-ups help students start the school year off right in 2011; Thousands of community residents receive free school supplies and critical health care screenings each year, as seen here in 2010; South Bay Family Health Care provides eye exams at the "Healthy Kids Express" in 2009.



Senator Wright's legislative highlights for 2010 include...

- ❖ Promised greater educational stability for California's foster children by discouraging mid-term school transfers, greatly increasing their odds of graduating from high school. **(SB 1353)**
- ❖ Removed legal obstacles to ensure better coordination of insurance fraud investigations, a crime which costs Californians \$15 billion a year. **(SB 156)**
- ❖ Protected jobs in California's struggling recording industry by bringing anti-piracy laws up-to-date with technology, addressing a crime which costs California \$4.2 billion a year. **(SB 830)**
- ❖ Protected job seekers from unauthorized access to their personal data caused by California investigative consumer agencies subcontracting their work "offshore." **(SB 909)**
- ❖ Urged Congress, the President and Department of Defense to take immediate action to ensure continued production of the C-17 to meet future international and domestic airlift needs and protect a \$2 billion a year industry that supports 14,000 California jobs. **(SJR 29)**
- ❖ Protected the disabled by enacting a law that tells judges they may not deem a parent unfit based solely on a physical disability. **(SB 1188)**
- ❖ Saved limited air district staff resources by cracking down on abuse of a vague complaint response rule by certain individuals, allowing the agency to focus on legitimate health and safety issues. **(SB 1224)**
- ❖ Continued the fight to establish limits on out-of-pocket costs for oral chemotherapy for those health insurance policies that provide coverage for cancer chemotherapy treatment. **(SB 961)**
- ❖ Increased public awareness of the causes of chronic kidney disease and the importance of intervention to promote sustained health and quality of life. **(SCR 111)**
- ❖ Sought to protect patient health by ensuring temporary staff from a nursing registry are held to the same licensing and qualification standards as all nurses. **(SB 1119)**



Wright seeks to grow exports

Senator Wright convened a panel of local, state and federal agency representatives for a "Grow Your Exports" seminar in October of 2010 to help local businesses diversify into international trade. The event was co-hosted by the California Board of Equalization and Port of Los Angeles and held at Normandie Casino in Gardena.

Wright named 2010 Senator of the Year for leadership in family court reform

Senator Wright received the 2010 Senator of the Year Award from the organization Fathers and Families for "his fine leadership in the fight for family court reform."

The organization, which seeks equal legal rights and responsibilities for both mothers and fathers, went on to applaud Wright's inexhaustible passion and leadership on behalf of children of divorced or separated parents, as well as his efforts to improve quality of life for all parents and their children.

Wright worked closely with Fathers & Families in 2010 on four bills regarding child custody and child support reform, all of which were signed into law by the Governor.



Right: Wright with Fathers & Families' Michael Robinson.

- ❖ Extended a law that defines termination of child support as a change in circumstance that can serve as the basis for a modification of spousal support. **(SB 1482)**
- ❖ Extended the law that provides for Multifamily Improvement Districts to finance residential property improvements and promote activities benefitting those properties. **(SB 1483)**
- ❖ Called on Congress and the President to vindicate the African-American sailors unjustly blamed for and convicted of mutiny following the Port Chicago disaster of 1944, which claimed 320 lives. **(SJR 21)**
- ❖ Renamed an interchange to honor World War II Medal of honor recipient and long-time teacher Rudolph Davila. **(SCR 107)**
- ❖ Sought to increase the statute of limitations for the state to recover penalties due from employers who violate wage and hour laws. **(SB 903)**
- ❖ Added enforcement penalties to help insure the Office of Inspector General follow the Peace Officers Bill of Rights when conducting audits and investigations of the Department of Corrections. **(SB 1032)**

For more information on these and other bills by Senator Roderick D. Wright, please visit: <http://sd35.senate.ca.gov/legislation>.

Turkey Giveaway and Holiday Celebration ring in joyous season, start of new year in Legislature



Above: Assemblyman Bradford and Senator Wright get hands-on giving out turkeys at 2009's Operation Gobble.

Above right: Wright, Lawndale Elementary Superintendent Ellen Dougherty, Lawndale Mayor Harold Hoffman and Bradford at Operation Gobble 2011.

Below: Bradford (left) and Wright (right) stand by as Santa hears requests from three young sisters in 2009.



OPERATION GOBBLE

Each November, Senator Wright works with local businesses and non-profits to ensure that many district families enjoy the same Thanksgiving feast so many take for granted.

"Operation Gobble" has provided over 5,000 turkeys to families throughout the Senate District over Wright's term in the Senate.

HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

Operation Gobble is followed closely by Senator Wright's annual Holiday Celebration and Toy Giveaway.

Each year, Wright and Assemblyman Steven Bradford welcome the big guy in the red suit to a festive event where the legislators can talk with their constituents while their children enjoy a variety of crafts and entertainment.

Local businesses generously donate a wide array of age-appropriate gifts to the National Family Life and Education Center to ensure the young participants each go home from the Holiday Celebration with a special holiday surprise.

Operation Gobble and the Holiday Celebration give Wright another opportunity to talk face-to-face with constituents as he heads into a new legislative year, while helping to usher in happy holidays for all.



Clockwise from top right: Taj Kellum is all smiles as Carson Mayor Jim Dear, Wright, Gloria Gray, City Councilmember Rachel Johnson and Assemblyman Bradford present him with a bike donated by a local business in 2012; Students from the Courtney School of Dance put on quite a show at the 2011 event; Kids entertained themselves on a zipline while their folks met with Wright in 2009; "Elves" help participants with holiday crafts at the 2010 event.



Senator Wright's legislative highlights for 2009 include...

- ❖ Helped spur the stalled construction industry in Southern California – including several green energy projects – by authorizing SCAQMD to issue permits to essential public services, small businesses and other exempt facilities. **(SB 827)**
- ❖ Established Friday, May 8, 2009 as California Peace Officers Memorial Day, a statewide day of observance to honor officers killed in the line of duty. **(SCR 26)**
- ❖ Corrected a constitutional flaw so prosecutors can seek the maximum term for current law sentence enhancements, such as for hate crimes and drive-by shootings. **(SB 150)**
- ❖ Created a more equitable funding system for local schools, by allowing budget cuts to be factored into the basic grant formula for conversion to charter schools. **(SB 191)**
- ❖ Declared that federal disability benefits awarded to veterans for service-connected disabilities are exempt from the claims of creditors and shall not be liable to attachment, levy or seizure. **(SB 285)**

Compton sisters fly to Sacramento for Capitol honors



Sisters Kimberly (left) and Kelly Anyadike (right) with Robin Petgrave of Tomorrow's Aeronautical Museum in Compton, Tuskegee Airman Levi Thornhill and Senator Wright in Sacramento in 2009. The two teen-aged aviators flew up to be recognized on Senate Floor for their respective record-breaking flying feats.

California's manufacturers name Wright 2009 Legislator of the Year

Senator Wright was honored as Legislator of the Year for 2009 by the California Manufacturing and Technology Association for "his unique ability and political courage to balance the interests of the environment with the very real needs of the business community and California's hard-working families."



A man of many hats, Senator Wright sacrificed style for a 2009 tour of the Coca-Cola bottling plant in downtown Los Angeles.

Wright was most proud that the award represented his efforts to jump-start the stalled construction industry in California, allowing \$4 billion in construction activity to go forward and clearing the way for 60,000 new jobs.

"I'm gratified to accept an award that is presented to me by those who provide jobs for tens of thousands of Californians," said Wright, upon receiving his award. "We've got to work together to create a healthy business environment in California while also protecting the environment."

- ❖ Expanded the dream of home ownership by allowing for impound or trust accounts for mortgages that meet the requirements of higher-priced mortgage loans. **(SB 633)**
- ❖ Fought to protect cancer victims by requiring health plans to cover drug chemotherapy treatment the same as intravenous chemotherapy. **(SB 161)**
- ❖ Strengthened and expanded protections for emergency response personnel by making permanent the "move over" law and adding Department of Transportation vehicles to its provisions. **(SB 240)**

For more information on these and other bills by Senator Roderick D. Wright, please visit: <http://sd35.senate.ca.gov/legislation>.

Wright fights to protect seniors in his community from frauds that target older residents

Senator Wright has hosted a series of Senior Scam StopperSM seminars over the years, in an effort to give seniors in his community the tools to protect themselves from frauds that target them.

Presented in conjunction with the Contractors State



Wright recognizes Chief Dan Dreiling of the Palos Verdes Estates Police Department and Captain Ronene Anda of the Lomita Sheriff's Station at the 2010 seminar in Palos Verdes.

License Board, these seminars are presented to the public free of charge and cover such topics as construction-related scams, Medicare fraud, identity theft, auto repair and investments.



Wright chats with attendees of the 2012 senior fraud seminar in Inglewood.

A panel of experts from agencies such as the Department of Insurance, Public Utilities Commission, California Health Advocates and the Los Angeles District Attorney's office comes together to focus on their individual specialties at each event, with CSLB

giving tips on what to check for when hiring a contractor.

"Unfortunately there are people in any community who will take advantage of those they perceive to be 'easy targets,' even if that victim is somebody's grandmother," said Wright. "I hope we gave seniors the tools and know-how to keep themselves from being victimized and help protect the savings they have worked a lifetime for."



Above: Wright presents a shredder to John Champion in Compton in 2012; Right: Palos Verdes drew a crowd in '10.



Community Events & State Resources



Wright talks with decorated veteran John Simpson at a 2011 Memorial Day event in Hawthorne.

Senator Wright looks forward to every opportunity to meet with the residents of his district to discuss the issues and legislation that matter most to you.

Wright has hosted community townhall meetings on critical issues including foreclosure prevention, financial literacy, income tax preparation and navigating the new health care marketplace. He attends neighborhood council and community taskforce meetings whenever possible, and has a great staff of individuals committed to this community who attend on his behalf when Senate duties keep Wright in Sacramento, keeping him apprised of what is happening back home in the 35th Senate District.

You will also find Wright and his staff at a wealth of community events throughout the year, where they will be happy to talk to you and provide you with literature on valuable resources available to you as a resident of the great State of California.



Above: Wright joins The Kidney TRUST mascot "Ripples" and KTLA's Cher Calvin at a 2010 walk to raise awareness about chronic kidney disease. Above, right: Wright and his staff can be found at numerous community events throughout the year, armed with a wealth of information on critical state resources available to you. Right: Wright leads by example in promoting preventative health care, getting his blood pressure and blood glucose levels tested at the 2013 Watts Healthcare Men's Health Fair.

