



April 26, 2013

**Rep. Miller Praises Suspension of Enrollment Freeze at Job Corps Centers**

Earlier this year, as a result of budget deficits created by poor fiscal management, the Department of Labor instituted a freeze on new student enrollment at the nation's 125 Job Corps Centers which provide educational and career training services to at-risk and low-income students. I strongly opposed the freeze and joined a bipartisan group of seventy-one lawmakers in calling on the Department to find alternative cost-savings.

While it was expected to last through June, I am pleased to report that the Department has decided to end the enrollment freeze effective immediately. This is great news, especially for students here in the 31<sup>st</sup> District. I recently had the opportunity to tour the Inland Empire Job Corps Center in San Bernardino, which is one of the highest-performing Job Corps Centers in the nation. The Center is doing incredible work helping students acquire the education and job skills they need to compete in today's economy, and I am glad that the Center will be able to resume enrolling new students.

That said it is long past time for the Department of Labor to improve its administration of the program. It is unacceptable that vulnerable students who want the opportunity to learn and contribute to our economy were denied essential services due to the Department's financial mismanagement. It is absolutely essential that the Department improve its management practices and prevent this situation from occurring again.

**Rep. Miller Announces Export Forum in San Bernardino on May 2nd**

To get our economy growing again, we need to enhance the competitiveness of San Bernardino County businesses and exporters in the global economy. I am pleased to announce that my office, in collaboration with the Export-Import Bank of the United States (Ex-Im Bank), will be holding an Exporter Forum in San Bernardino on Thursday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

The Ex-Im Bank plays a key role in helping Southern California businesses grow and create good-paying jobs by facilitating the export of hundreds of millions of dollars worth of U.S.-made products and services, all while returning money each year to the U.S. Treasury.

The Forum will include an address by Bank Chairman and President Fred P. Hochberg and panel discussions on how local companies can work with the Bank and other government entities to expand their export opportunities. Forum attendees will also have the opportunity to speak directly with export development officials to ask questions and learn how they can utilize these critical resources.

I would like to extend my appreciation to Chairman Hochberg and the Ex-Im Bank for coming to the Inland Empire for this important forum for job creators and look forward to participating in what is sure to be a productive and educational event.

The Exporter Forum will be held at the Norton Event Center at the San Bernardino International Airport on Thursday, May 2nd from 8:30am to 1:00pm.

There is no cost to attend, however due to limited space, registration is required: <http://www.exim.gov/gasb>

### **Special Panel on Freight Transportation Holds First Hearing**

On Wednesday, the special panel I was recently appointed to on the importance of freight transportation held its first hearing. The panel heard from witnesses representing the broad spectrum of freight transportation, from railways and aviation to highways and maritime transportation, on the state of our goods movement system and the challenges it will face in coming years.

The need for a safe and efficient system for moving goods from cargo containers to store shelves can be seen here in the Inland Empire. The 31<sup>st</sup> District is home to Colton Crossing, one of the busiest railroad crossings in the nation, hundreds of trucking firms, and numerous warehouses and distribution centers. Together, these freight pathways help bring goods to the marketplace and support thousands of jobs in goods movement, manufacturing, construction, and retail in San Bernardino County.

According to the Southern California Association of Governments, freight movement in our region is expected to triple in the next three decades. While this is positive news, this growth will significantly increase the stress on our ports, highways, and railways. Since the Inland Empire bears a disproportionate share of stress on our highways and railways, we need to ensure that the country recognizes how vitally important our region is to the national supply chain and plan our infrastructure needs accordingly. I will continue to work with my colleagues on the panel to find effective solutions that will address the challenges facing freight transportation and goods movement and support economic growth in the Inland Empire and across the country.

### **Artistic Discovery Winners Honored**

This past Saturday, I had the pleasure of honoring the students who participated in this year's Artistic Discovery congressional art competition at a reception in San Bernardino. Since 1982, the Congressional Institute has sponsored this nationwide contest to encourage and recognize artistic talent in each congressional district.

First place was awarded to Mr. Efrain Serna of Rialto's Carter High School for his charcoal drawing entitled 'Beauty Within'. Mr. Serna will receive two tickets to attend a special reception in Washington D.C., where his work will be displayed for one year in the U.S. Capitol Building. This year's "Best of Theme" was awarded to Miss Contreras Paola of San Bernardino's Public Safety Academy for her painting, 'The Beauty of the Inland Empire Nostalgia,' which will be displayed in my Rancho Cucamonga District Office. To see all of this year's winning entries, please visit my Facebook page or my website.

All of the artwork submitted for consideration this year was exceptional. Again, I thank all of the students for participating and congratulate them on their outstanding and creative work.