News from Representative Alan Lowenthal



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April 25, 2014

As you may know, this past Monday was Earth Day – a day for all of us to be a little more conscious of the daily impacts we make on our planet. While we celebrate Earth Day once a year, I remain committed to protecting our environment, our climate, and our future every day of the year.

It's our choice whether or not we want to act on the issues that affect our environment and help make our planet more livable for future generations.

I choose action.

In The 47th District

"Black April" Commemoration Week

Last Saturday, I joined the Vietnamese community in Little Saigon in Westminster for the unveiling of the Black Wall of Remembrance, as well as the hanging of the U.S. and Republic of Vietnam flags to kick-off what is known as "Black April" Commemoration Week. The Black April commemoration is a special time for the community to pay respect to the Vietnamese and American soldiers who sacrificed their lives to protect the freedom of South Vietnam and remember the civilians who lost their lives during and after the war.

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Now that more than three million Californians have enrolled in health care coverage through Covered California, do you think Congress should keep voting to repeal or dismantle the Affordable Care Act?

Yes - The law is not working for the majority of Americans, and Congress must continue to try to repeal or dismantle the Affordable Care Act

Maybe - Congress should repeal only some provisions of the Affordable Care Act

No - The law is working for the majority of Americans, and Congress must instead work to make the law even better

I do not know

If you have a problem, click here to open survey in a new window







While there, I was pleased to help spread the news that democratic activist and blogger Nguyen Tien Trung, whom I have adopted as a "prisoner of conscience" through the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission, had been released in Vietnam.



Long Beach's Green Ribbon Schools

Congratulations to <u>Lowell</u> and <u>Mark Twain</u> elementary schools in Long Beach for being awarded the 2014 U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools and District Sustainability Award!

The U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools' recognition award honors schools and districts that are exemplary in reducing environmental impact and costs; improving the health and wellness of students and staff; and providing effective environmental and sustainability education, which incorporates STEM, civic skills and green career pathways.

Learn more about the program by visiting: http://1.usa.gov/1I34VLf

On The Hill

My Visit to Ukraine

Earlier this week, I visited Ukraine with my colleagues from the House Foreign Affairs Committee. We met with key Ukrainian officials to discuss the Obama Administration's efforts to help maintain Ukrainian sovereignty, as well as their security and the future of their energy industry.

On Tuesday, I spoke to members of the international media at the Ukrainian Crisis Media Center in Ukraine.



Click <u>here</u> or above to listen to my remarks

Affordable Care Act Update

As of April 15th, more than three million California consumers have enrolled in health insurance plans or in Medi-Cal.

Of those enrolled in Covered California plans, 88 percent are eligible for financial subsidies to help cover the cost of their health insurance premiums, and 36 percent are between the ages of 18 and 34.

I am very pleased to see so many more people with health insurance and that the first enrollment period come to a successful close!

Congress U

"Revise and Extend"

Whenever Members of Congress deliver a speech on the House floor, they must first ask permission of the chamber and the presiding officer to revise their remarks in the Congressional Record, and extend them by inserting material additional to their spoken words, such as editorials, relevant newspaper articles, or constituent correspondence.

While permission is nearly always granted, members must begin each speech with "I ask unanimous consent to address the House for X minutes and to revise and extend my remarks."

To view some of my speeches given on the House floor, please visit my YouTube channel: www.YouTube.com/RepLowenthal

Last Week's Poll

Should the United States continue trade relations with countries that disregard globally-accepted standards of human rights?

1.4% YES - Maintaining global trade relations is more important than

upholding basic human rights

31.2% YES - We should continue trading, but we should also push for human rights improvements

9.1% MAYBE - We should trade with some countries that violate human rights, but not others

57.1% NO - We should not trade with any country that blatantly violates the human rights of its people

1.2% I DO NOT KNOW

Van Lowenthal

Thank you,

Alan Lowenthal Member of Congress

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