

# Organizing For Action on State Legislation

## What you do WILL make a difference!

By Sharon Byrne, United Nations Association of Santa Barbara and Montecito Association

Your vote is your power. Your voice is important, and when legislators hear a lot from their constituents, they tend to pause and listen.

### Dates to remember:

Assembly at recess until August 16<sup>th</sup>.

Bills can be voted on August 16<sup>th</sup> – September 10<sup>th</sup>. Then they go to the Governor.

Recall Election Sept 14<sup>th</sup>

Last day for Governor to sign or veto bills: October 10<sup>th</sup>.

Here are actions you can take, at your comfort level, to let your legislator know how you feel:

1. **Contact your representative at their district office.** Go to <http://findyourrep.legislature.ca.gov/>  
Plug in your address and zip. It will show you your California Senator and Assemblymember. You can select your representative. Use their web portal to send comments directly. Call their district office and let them know your thoughts.
2. **Send a letter through** <https://stopsb9.org/> This easy-to-use site generates a letter for your representative that you can adapt to your own words.
3. **Call OTHER legislators.** Use <https://www.assembly.ca.gov/assemblymembers>



assembly.ca.gov/assemblymembers

### Members

On each Assemblymember's Home Page you will find his/her email address, Capitol and District addresses and phone numbers, the Member's biography, a list of all the legislation authored by that Assemblymember, his/her committee memberships, press releases and other publications, district links, and more.

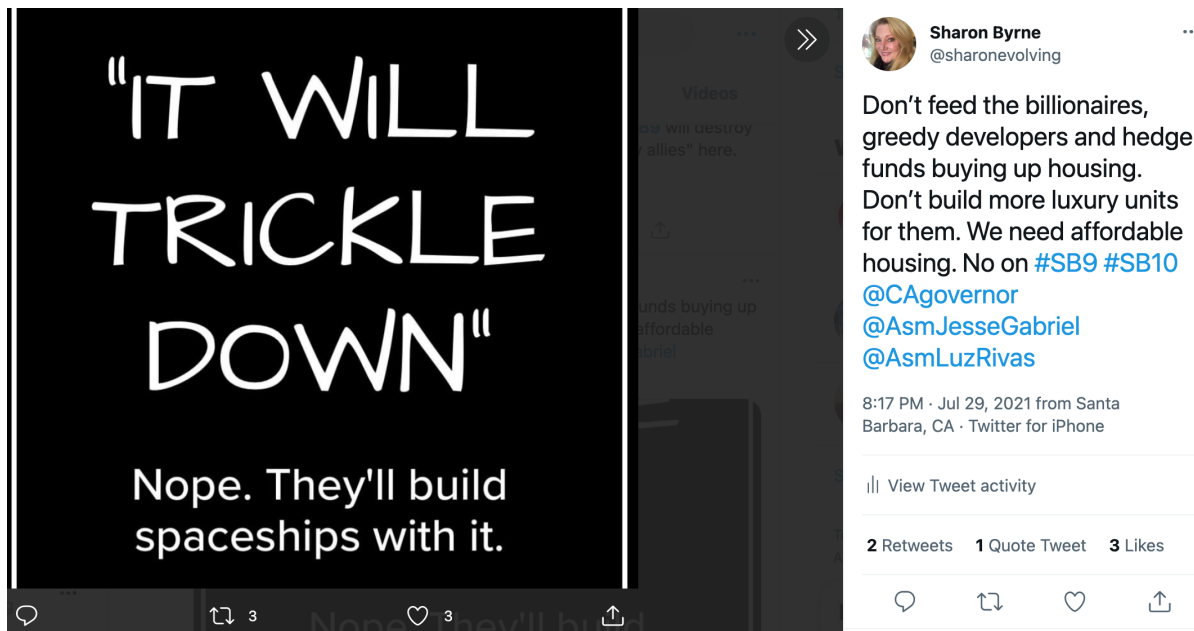
[Find your Legislator by your address](#)

[Assemblymember Capitol Offices Directory, revised 06/01/21.\[pdf\]](#)

Name	District	Party	Office Information
 <a href="#">Aguiar-Curry, Cecilia M.</a>	04	Democrat	<a href="#">Contact Assembly Member Cecilia M. Aguiar-Curry</a> <b>Capitol Office, Room 5144</b> P.O. Box 942849, Sacramento, CA 94249-0004; (916) 319-2004 <b>District Office</b> 600 A Street, Suite D, Davis, CA 95616; (530) 757-1034 2721 Napa Valley Corporate Drive, Napa, CA 94558; (707) 224-0440 50 D Street, Suite 305, Santa Rosa, CA 95404; (707) 576-0400 885 Lakeport Boulevard, Lakeport, CA 95453;
 <a href="#">Arambula, Dr. Joaquin</a>	31	Democrat	<a href="#">Contact Assembly Member Dr. Joaquin Arambula</a> <b>Capitol Office, Room 5155</b> P.O. Box 942849, Sacramento, CA 94249-0004; (916) 319-2031 <b>District Office</b> 2550 Mariposa Mall, Room 5031, Fresno, CA 93721; (559) 445-5532

**4. Use social media. They each have their strengths:**

- a. **Nextdoor:** A great way to let others in your community know what's important about these bills, and how to join you in communicating with your legislator.
- b. **Facebook:** Share videos and posts to friends and family across the state.
- c. **Twitter:** You can tag legislators directly, and the Governor, and hashtag the subject so others interested in it can follow you and retweet it. This medium is watched closely by legislators as a sort of 'public pulse' on key issues.



- 5. **Teach 5 friends to do the same thing!** Share United Neighbors' excellent video – it's 2 minutes and really nails the issues. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8m-NIGdq7Gs>
- 6. **Write Letters to the Editor in your local media.** This is THE most read section of many local media outlets. It gives you a far wider audience for your message. And your legislator's team likely reads them...
- 7. **Hold a press conference or make your own video!** Sometimes news media can be a bit one-sided. So don't be afraid to gather some neighbors and coordinate and get out your own message.
- 8. **ALWAYS INCLUDE THE GOVERNOR!** He can sign or veto these bills. Use his portal to communicate: <https://govapps.gov.ca.gov/gov40mail/> Choose 'legislative issues.'

**OK I'm reaching out to my legislator!**

**What do I say?**

Here are some points you can use:

- We need Affordable Housing. not developer and investor handouts.
- Don't displace people out of lower rent / price units. NO gentrification. Protect our diverse communities!
- STOP building in High Wildfire Zones. The California Insurance Commissioner doesn't support this. What is the CA Senate *thinking in pushing more people into these zones?*
- Voting for these bills to look like you're doing something on housing = create more (up)market-rate housing, driving prices HIGHER = *just what investors / developers want.*
- **Give us more GOOD post-pandemic housing tools, please:**
  - SB 15 rewards cities for building affordable housing in dead retail and big box stores.
  - SB 6 converts dead office space.
  - SB 621 converts dead motels to homeless housing.
- **Leverage state, county, municipal, public agency vacant spaces** for Affordable housing.
- **Build density in the urban core, in commercial zones.**
- **Preserve open spaces** – you need them with density.
- **Let's work together on solutions that get to YES.**

Your voice is important, as is the future of our state and our communities. Please commit to doing one or more of the above actions. Make sure your voice is heard!