U.S. REPRESENTATIVE MIKE LEVIN Proudly Serving California's 49th District

116th Congress Progress Report



Working across the aisle and delivering results on local priorities for North County San Diego and South Orange County.

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U.S Representative Mike Levin

Dear Neighbor,

Two years ago, I was sworn in to serve California's 49th District in Congress. Since then, I have worked tirelessly to deliver results for you on local priorities, provide excellent constituent services, and remain as accessible and transparent as possible.

We made a lot of progress over the last two years that I am proud to share here.

As a member of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, Natural Resources Committee, and Select Committee on the Climate Crisis, I worked with members of both parties to introduce **53 pieces of legislation**, including **18 bills and amendments** that passed the House of Representatives, and another **14 bipartisan bills that have been signed into law by the President**, either as standalone bills or as part of a larger piece of legislation.

I also held **29** constituent coffees, more than **27 town halls**, responded to more than **115,000 constituent messages**, and made **nearly 100** visits to local businesses, schools, non-profit organizations and more.

My staff in Oceanside and Dana Point have **helped more than 875 constituents** with issues involving federal agencies, **saving them more than \$2,149,000 total**. We've helped secure **\$856,776,000 million in federal grants** for institutions in our District, and **more than \$613,000 for small businesses** struggling during this pandemic.

While I am proud of these accomplishments, I know this has still been a very difficult year for many in our community. We have lost more than 335,000 Americans to this pandemic, including more than 1,400 in San Diego County and 1,800 in Orange County. Each individual lost was somebody's parent or grandparent, a son or daughter, a friend or co-worker who will be deeply missed. I hope to honor their memory by working to protect those in our community from the virus, strengthening our economy, and ensuring that we beat this pandemic together.

While we passed more relief for those who are struggling, there is much more we must do in 2021, and that will be my top priority this year. As long as I have the opportunity to serve in Congress, I will continue to fight for you every single day.

Thank you,

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U.S. Representative Mike Levin (CA-49)

Constituent Service by the Numbers



address your priorities, questions, and concerns.

Here is a sample of our constituent success stories:

In our District, organizations like schools, non-profits, and research institutions have received more than **\$856,776,000 in federal grants** since I was sworn into office.

My staff have closed **more than 875 pieces of casework**, resulting in more than **\$2,149,941 returned** to constituents. We have **also responded to more than 115,534 messages** from constituents to

Chris Hendrickson from San Clemente received help with a federal pension issue: "I could not be more impressed with the professionalism, responsiveness, and results this constituent received from Congressman Levin and his staff."

Cathy Jay in Cardiff received help with Social Security: "After 9 months and dozens of contacts with Social Security and Medicare, I asked Mike Levin's office for help. My issues were resolved in a matter of days."

Jerry Dowling from Vista received help with a Veterans' Affairs issue: "[Staff] from Rep. Levin's office helped me restore and increase my mother's benefits from the VA. Rep. Levin's letters to VA offices and [his staff's] assistance was a tremendous help."

John DeWitt in Bonsall received help with a passport issue: "I owe a huge debt of gratitude to Congressman Mike Levin and his staff for assisting me in securing my passport... Mr. Levin and his staff went to bat for me... I had never asked for assistance from an elected official in my 75 years, prior to this. I am so impressed with the professionalism and performance of Mike Levin and his wonderful staff."

Other constituent service highlights:

- Hosted **29 Constituent Coffees** and **27 town halls** where I provided updates on my work to address local priorities and took questions from constituents.
- Produced more than **1,187 certificates of recognition** to honor local individuals, organizations, and businesses for their contributions to our community.
- Nominated 64 local students to attend U.S. service academies.

Legislative Accomplishments

I am proud to say that I have **passed 32 bipartisan bills** through the House, including **14 that were signed into law** by the President either individually or as part of a larger piece of legislation:

- 1. The *Protect Affordable Mortgages for Veterans Act* to help maintain liquidity in the veteran home loan market.
- 2. <u>H.R. 2196</u>, a bill to expand veterans' access to STEM scholarship programs.
- 3. The <u>Ryan Kules and Paul Benne Specially Adaptive Housing Improvement Act of 2019</u> to improve the VA's Specially Adapted Housing program.
- 4. An <u>amendment</u> to the <u>Servicemembers Civil Relief Act</u> (SCRA) to expand the list of orders that qualify for residential lease termination to include a stop movement order issued by the Department of Defense in response to a local, national, or global emergency.
- 5. The <u>Vet Center Eligibility Expansion Act</u> to expand eligibility to receive counseling from VA Vet Centers.
- 6. The <u>Navy SEAL Chief Petty Officer William "Bill" Mulder (Ret.) Transition Improvement</u> <u>Act</u> to improve the Transition Assistance Program for servicemembers returning to civilian life.
- 7. The <u>Housing for Women Veterans Act</u> to direct a portion of VA homelessness funding to women veterans.
- 8. The <u>Protect the GI Bill Act</u> to strengthen protections against predatory, for-profit schools.
- 9. The <u>Homeless Veteran Coronavirus Response Act</u> to allow the VA to use existing funds for a wider range of services.
- 10. The <u>Reducing Veteran Homelessness Act</u> to ensure that homeless veterans and their families receive the resources and services they deserve by filling gaps in HUD-VA Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) case management.
- 11. The <u>Pandemic Assistance for Student Veterans Act</u> to minimize the impact and disparities of the COVID-19 pandemic on student veterans.
- 12. The <u>Veteran HOUSE Act</u> to ensure chronically homeless veterans discharged under conditions other-than-honorable (OTH), but not dishonorable, are eligible for HUD-VASH housing vouchers and supportive case management.
- 13. The <u>Brian Tally VA Employment Transparency Act</u> to support veterans with legal claims against the Department of Veterans Affairs or its contractors.
- 14. The <u>Spent Nuclear Fuel Solutions Research and Development Act</u> to foster innovation in the storage and disposal of spent nuclear fuel and support research on dry cask storage, consolidated interim storage, deep geological storage and disposal, and used nuclear fuel transportation.

Other Legislative Highlights



•Secured \$280 million in military construction funding for Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton in 2019 and 2020 National Defense Authorization Acts (NDAA).

•<u>Negotiated for \$300 million</u> in federal funding to be included in the United States–Mexico–Canada Agreement (USMCA) for the Border Water Infrastructure Program, which will address pollution in the Tijuana River Valley.

- Introduced <u>bipartisan legislation</u> to help reduce gun violence including suicide and accidental shootings - by providing a modest tax credit for retailers to incentivize the sale of safe storage devices for firearms.
- Introduced the <u>Spent Fuel Prioritization Act</u> to prioritize the removal of spent nuclear fuel from decommissioned nuclear sites in areas with large populations and high seismic hazard, such as the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS).
 - Introduced and passed the <u>Increasing Nuclear Safety Protocols for Extended</u> <u>Canister Transfers (INSPECT) Act</u> to require the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to keep a resident inspector at decommissioning nuclear power plants until all spent fuel is transferred from its spent fuel pools to canisters.
- Introduced and passed <u>bipartisan legislation</u> to help combat the climate crisis and reduce our dependence on fossil fuels by promoting development of wind, solar, and geothermal energy on public lands.
- Passed <u>legislation</u> to **invest billions in the National Institutes of Health** (NIH) for scientific research related to antibiotic resistance and rare diseases as part of the Lower Drug Costs Now Act of 2019 (H.R. 3).

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