



## CATCHING UP WITH CARLOS

### **CALIFORNIA TRUCKING ASSOCIATION NAMES VILLAPUDUA "LEGISLATOR OF THE YEAR"**

The California Trucking Association (CTA) recently honored Assemblymember Villapudua as their "Legislator of the Year" to recognize his longstanding support for the trucking industry, including through the introduction of [AB 376](#).

Villapudua had spent much of his time before coming into office learning the ins and outs of the trucking industry. Now, as Chair of the Committee on Jobs, Economic Development, and the Economy, he continues to spotlight ways California can better support our supply chain and logistics industry.

Consistently cited as a top issue facing the trucking industry, a shortage of workers can lead to the delay of product delivery and a slowing of the overall economy. Despite rising wages, a shortage of roughly 78,000 truckers remains nationwide. *(this story continues on page 2)*

*(CTA Legislator of the Year continued)*

While a trucking career has proven to be lucrative and provide economic mobility, significant financial barriers have kept many individuals from pursuing this career due to the costs of education and training.

The Cal Grant C student financial aid has paved a meaningful path for low-income students to obtain the education and training to enter our workforce with many desirable skills. However, the grant is only available for training programs that last four months or longer. Many entry-level driver training programs take less than four months, rendering them ineligible for this valuable grant.

All of these factors inspired Villapudua to introduce AB 376 earlier in the year. If enacted, the bill would extend Cal Grant C eligibility for entry-level driver training programs, regardless of how long the program may take to complete. This would extend a new opportunity of financial mobility for many families, and strengthen a workforce for such a critical statewide industry.



## NATIONAL NIGHT OUT IN SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY

National Night Out celebrates our law enforcement within the community and helps promote relationships between our first-responders and those they protect and serve. It provides us with an opportunity every year to thank them for their service and foster community-based partnerships with our police.







# STOCKTON'S MIRACLE MILE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION TO FUEL MIRACLE MILE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Over 150 people recently applied to serve on the Miracle Mile Ad Hoc Work Group to oversee the direction of the pedestrian safety and beautification improvements. The 21 members that will serve on the Work Group have been selected and notified, and the first public hearing is set to take place in the coming weeks.

These public meetings will provide a space for everyone in the community to share their ideas and feedback on how the \$20 million would best be spent. If you are interested in participating in this public forum, be sure to follow the Assemblymember on his social media for updates.

## MONEY COMING TO THE DISTRICT

San Joaquin County received \$11 million in State funds to service 300 homeless individuals living in encampments.

The money will be targeted towards cleaning up one of the area's largest encampments located under the SR-4 / I-5 junction.

The County will work directly with St. Mary's Dining Hall and STAND Affordable Housing to provide permanent and temporary housing, case management, social services, and more.



August 23, 2023

The Honorable Carlos Villapudua  
1021 O St. Ste. 6340  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Encampment Resolution Grant Award Notification**

Dear Assemblymember Villapudua:

On behalf of the Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency and the California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH), I am pleased to notify you that San Joaquin County has been awarded a grant from Round 2 of the Encampment Resolution Fund (ERF) Program.

- San Joaquin County- \$11,172,186.58 to serve 300 individuals.

The [ERF program](#) is a competitive grant program available to assist local jurisdictions in ensuring the wellness and safety of people experiencing homelessness in encampments by providing services and support that address their immediate physical and mental wellness and result in meaningful paths to safe and stable housing.

Please accept my congratulations to your district for this award. If you have any questions, or would like additional information, please contact Meghan Marshall, Cal ICH Executive Officer, at [Meghan.Marshall@bcsdh.ca.gov](mailto: Meghan.Marshall@bcsdh.ca.gov)

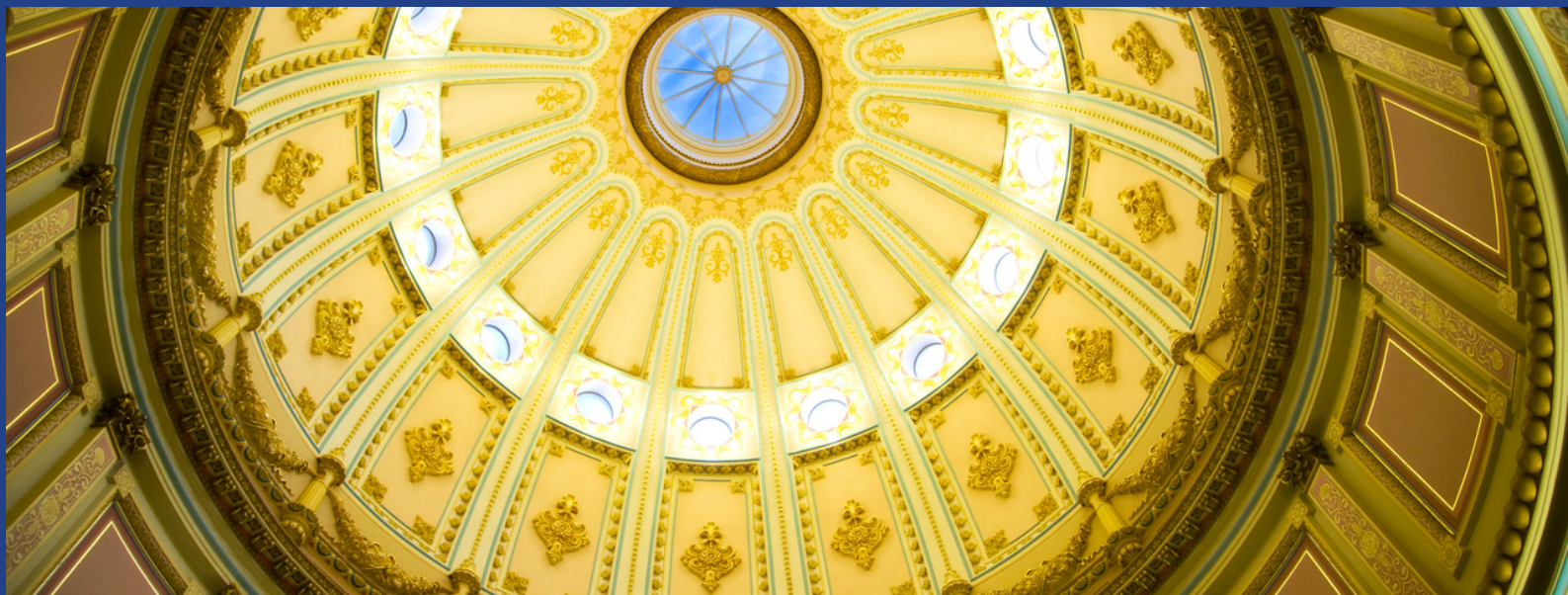
Sincerely,

Lourdes M. Castro Ramirez, MA  
Secretary

cc: Meghan Marshall, Executive Officer, Cal ICH

BUSINESS, CONSUMER SERVICES AND HOUSING AGENCY

Clavin Newsom, Governor  
Lourdes M. Castro Ramirez, MA Secretary



## 2023 LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

### [AB 701: Fentanyl Sentence Enhancements](#)



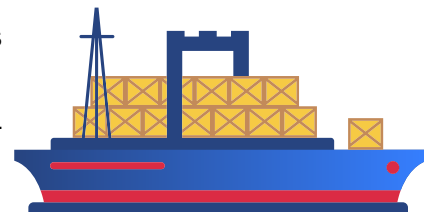
Cracks down on large-scale fentanyl dealers and traffickers by qualifying the possession of a kilogram or more of fentanyl for a sentence enhancement.

This tool is used for the trafficking of heroine, cocaine, methamphetamine, and other dangerous substances.

AB 701 recently received formal support from Attorney General Rob Bonta, and currently awaits a vote in the Senate Appropriations Committee on Sep. 1.

### [AB 748: Abandoned and Derelict Commercial Vessels Program](#)

Establishes a program consisting of representatives from local, state, and federal agencies to fund and coordinate the removal of abandoned and derelict commercial vessels from our waterways.



These abandoned and derelict vessels are expensive to remove, and leak toxic chemicals and pollutants into our water habitats. The longer we wait to remove them, the more costly they will be to remove, and the more dangerous toxins they will be releasing.

AB 748 currently awaits a vote in the Senate Appropriations Committee on Sep. 1.

### [AB 442: Increased Access to “RAP” Sheets](#)



Allows entities and individuals assisting people with a conviction history to more easily obtain their criminal history information, allowing them to pursue education, jobs, or housing more efficiently and be less likely to reoffend.

AB 442 currently awaits a vote in the Senate Appropriations Committee on Sep. 1.



# CARLOS' CONCLUDING COMMENTS

We are fast approaching the finals days of the 2023 Legislative Session on September 14. Many policies will be ironed out between now and then. Some may make it to the finish line; some may not. I continue to be vigilant of how every bill I vote on will affect the lives of every resident of San Joaquin County.

Once Session concludes next month, I will have a lot more time in the District and will be coordinating multiple events to discuss important matters with you. Please keep an eye on coming emails, and follow me on social media (@AsmVillapudua on all socials) to stay updated.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions about resources that may be available to you. My door is open, and my staff are available to assist you. You can contact me through my website or by calling one of my offices.



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