

Congressman Mark DeSaulnier's Town Hall

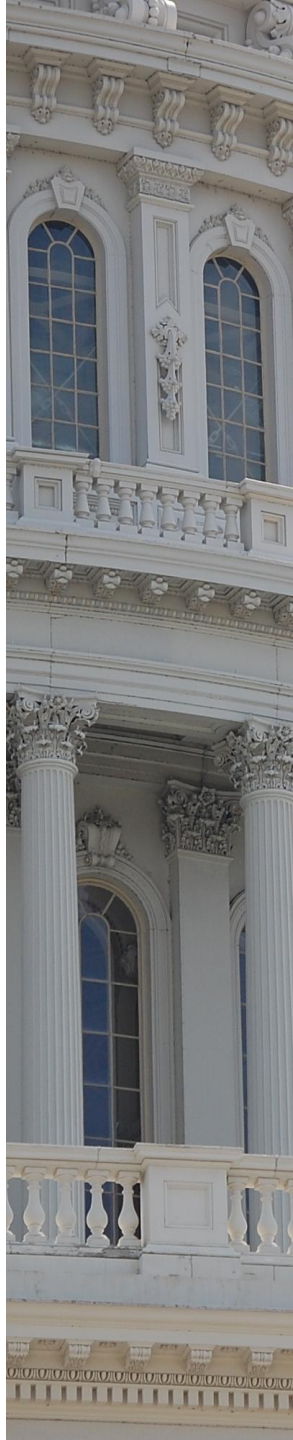
May 5, 2026



House Ethics: Congressional vs. Campaign Activity

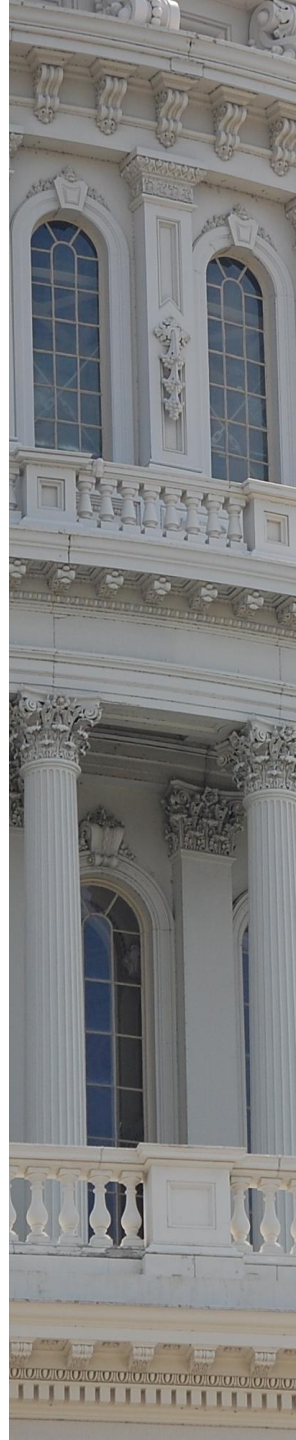
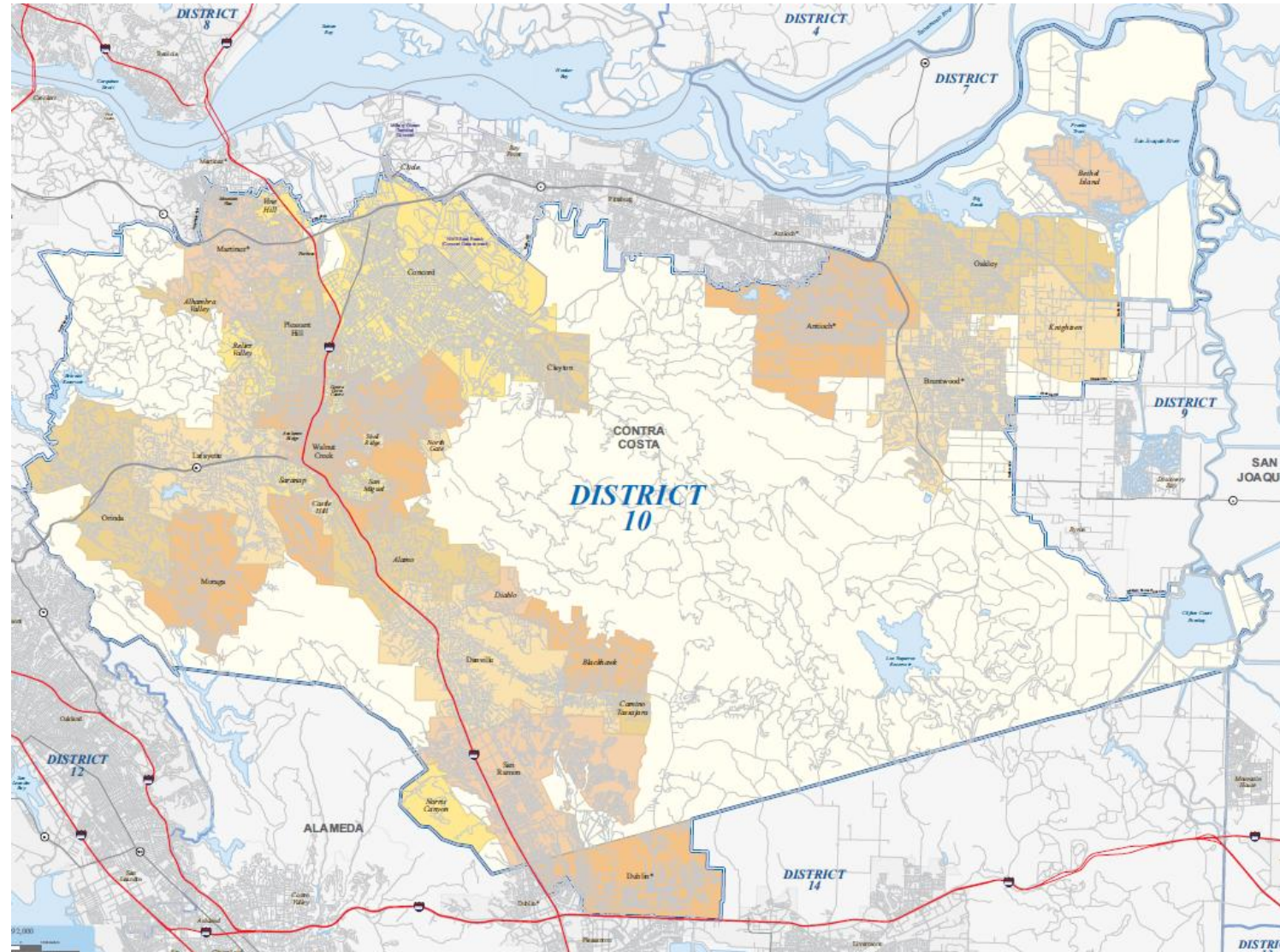
- **Members of Congress are governed by the House Code of Official Conduct, which includes standards for whether, how, when, and where Members may engage in campaign activity.**
 - **This town hall is being hosted in my official capacity as Representative for California's 10th District, not as a candidate in a campaign. Therefore, House Rules prevent me from:**
 - **Soliciting, receiving, and accepting campaign contributions.**
 - **Making political endorsements.**
 - **Directing attendees to websites, resources, or events created or operated by a campaign or any campaign-related entity, including political parties and campaign committees.**

You can learn more about the House Code of Official Conduct and how it relates to this event here:



California's 10th Congressional District

CA-10
includes most
of Contra
Costa and part
of Alameda
County



Committees and Caucuses

- **Ethics Committee – Ranking Member**
- **Education & Workforce Committee**
 - **Ranking Member of the Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions Subcommittee**
 - **Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Development**
- **Transportation & Infrastructure Committee**
 - **Subcommittees on Highways, Aviation, Water Resources and Environment, and Railroads**
- **Member of several important and influential caucuses, including:**
 - **Congressional Progressive Caucus**
 - **Bipartisan Cancer Survivors Caucus – Co-Chair**
 - **Urban Regional Studies Caucus – Co-Chair**
 - **Sustainable Energy and Environment Coalition**
 - **Climate Jobs Task Force – Co-Chair**
 - **Gun Violence Prevention Task Force**
 - **Reproductive Freedom Caucus**



Democrats Are Fighting For You While Republicans Bend To Trump

- The average family is paying more than \$2,500 extra this year because of the Trump Tariffs.
- The average family paid over \$300 more for groceries last year.
- The average annual price of health insurance is up \$1,500 compared to last year and Americans are paying an extra 25% more on average.
- Since Trump took office, household electric bills have risen as much as 13% nationally, while residential natural gas prices have increased by 12%.
- The average household is expected to spend \$740 extra on gas this year because of Trump's war of choice against Iran.
- Instead of working with Democrats to rein in ICE with the commonsense reforms Americans want, Republicans are keeping the Department of Homeland Security shut down to provide another \$70 billion for ICE.
 - This is money that could help lower health care and every day costs for millions of Americans.



Iran War Update

- 66 days ago, the U.S. and Israel launched a war of choice on Iran which has resulted in over 3,000 deaths, including 15 American soldiers.
- The war has cost U.S. taxpayers \$25 billion to \$35 billion so far, and the Administration is expected to request billions in additional funding.
- Gas prices in California have gone up about \$1.19 per gallon on average since the war began.
- This war is an example of the type of forever war the President pledged to avoid.
- Congressman DeSaulnier has voted multiple times this year to end U.S. military involvement in Iran.



Immigration

- **The Bay Area region is home to over 2.6 million immigrants, half of whom have lived here for at least 10 years. Immigration is expected to add \$8.9 trillion to the GDP between 2024 and 2034.**
- **In the past, there have been bipartisan efforts at immigration reform: Gang of Eight bill (2013), Aguilar-Hurd proposal (2018), bipartisan Senate border security bill (2024). This does not have to be a partisan issue.**
- **Over 45 people have died in ICE custody since the start of President Trump's second term, and at least 170 U.S. citizens have been detained by ICE over the same period.**
- **Democrats support humane enforcement of our immigration laws and compassion for the vast majority of immigrants who make their communities a better place.**
- **This Administration's lawlessness and outright cruelty are the wrong approach.**



By the Numbers

13.6%
of the US
population are
immigrants

28.7 million
US workers are
immigrants

22.2%
of the nation's
entrepreneurs
are immigrants

Immigrants contribute
\$3.3 trillion
to the US economy annually

Sources: American Immigration Council, Immigration Research Initiative



Concord Immigration Court & FCI Dublin

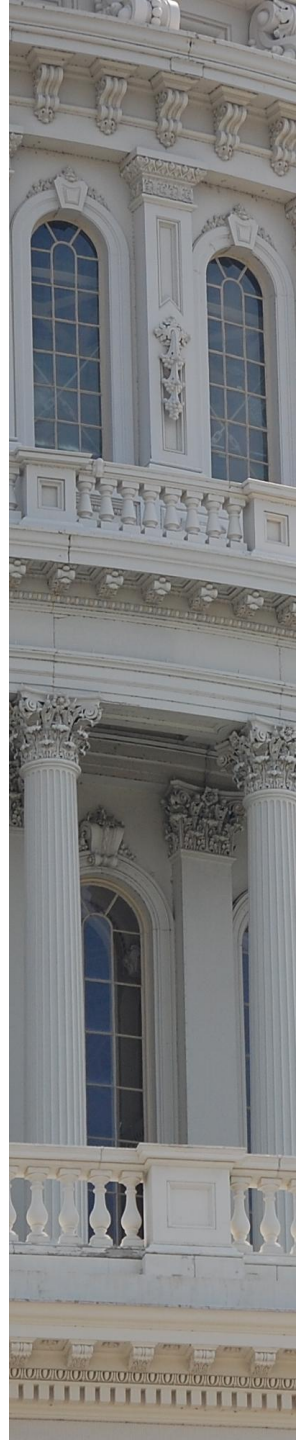
- The Administration has announced it will close the San Francisco Immigration Court, shifting all cases to the Concord Immigration Court.
 - Both courts are understaffed, and face backlogs totaling 180,000 cases, and have been packed with administrative judges who support the Administration's mass deportation agenda.
 - Congressman DeSaulnier is opposed to the closure of the San Francisco Immigration Court, which will increase processing times and require people to travel farther to hear their cases.
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- FCI Dublin officially closed as a women's prison in April 2024, in large part due to abuses within the prison as well as critical infrastructure, safety, and environmental deficiencies.
- After the Bureau of Prisons finishes an environmental review and public comment period, the facility will be offered up to other federal agencies.
- Congressman DeSaulnier is demanding answers from the Administration about its plans and objecting in no uncertain terms to reopening it for ICE detention.



Community Project Funding

- Since Community Project Funding requests (formerly known as earmarks) were re-established in 2021, Congressman DeSaulnier has brought home over \$62 million for 55 projects in the East Bay.
 - Projects that have been funded include installation of smart traffic signals, road safety improvements, mobile behavioral health crisis response, first responder communication upgrades, energy efficiency projects, and more.
- In March, Congressman DeSaulnier submitted 20 additional projects totaling over \$46.7 million to the House Appropriations Committee for consideration.



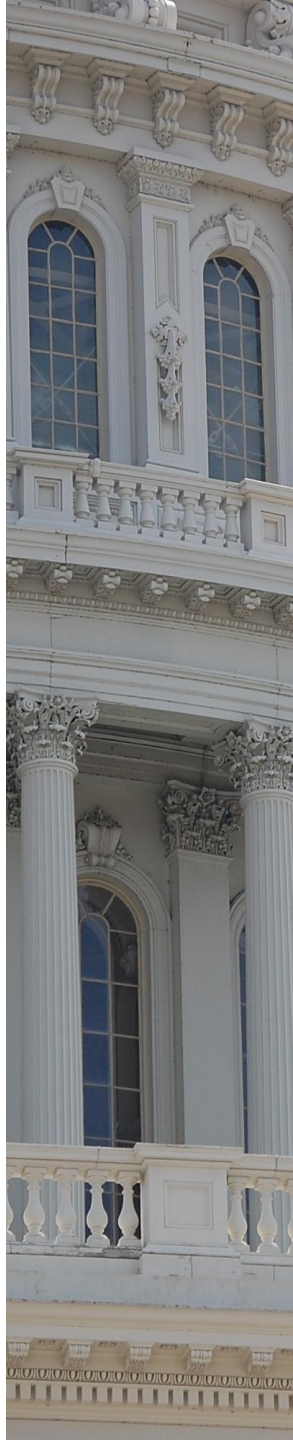
The Big Ugly Bill

- Last year, Congressional Republicans and President Trump passed their Big Ugly Bill into law. The law will have major impacts on our community.
 - The law cuts Medicaid by around \$1 trillion over 10 years and will kick 12 million Americans off Medicaid (known as Medi-Cal in our state).
 - The deepest Medicaid cuts begin to take effect in 2027.
 - 131,634 residents of California's 10th Congressional District receive health care through Medi-Cal. This law puts their coverage at risk.
 - Contra Costa Health Services and the county hospital are facing annual reductions of over \$120 million due to the law's Medicaid cuts.
 - The law has already kicked 3 million people off SNAP, largely due to burdensome work requirements, with still more to come.
- Congressman DeSaulnier vigorously opposed passage of this law and is fighting to undo the harms that the Big Ugly Bill will inflict on ordinary Americans.



Ethics in Congress

- As the top Democrat on the House Ethics Committee, Congressman DeSaulnier is committed to addressing sexual misconduct and other forms of inappropriate or illegal behavior by Members of Congress.
 - His overarching goal is to restore public trust in the institution.
- The Committee's work helps bring justice through investigations and deliberative, bipartisan engagement. While that work is at times slower than we would like, investigations require time, resources, cooperation, sensitivity, and expertise.
- Congressman DeSaulnier is engaging in conversations with the Chairman and House Leadership to see how we can make our investigations more efficient while also protecting victims and ensuring due process.
- Ethical behavior is more important than ideology.



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