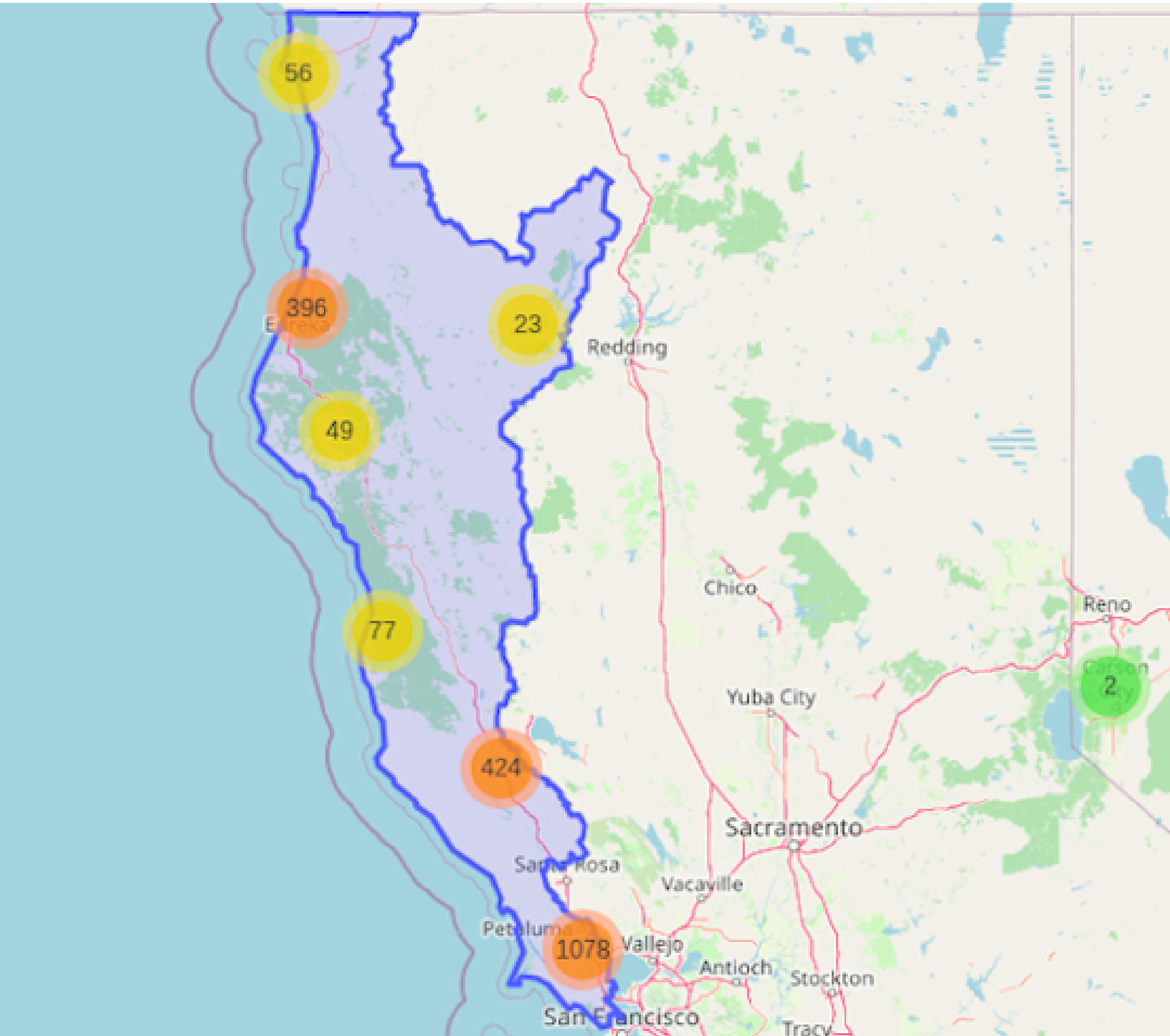


ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT WATCH'S

Congressional Report Card

California's 36th District; seat held by Raul Ruiz since 2013



INTRODUCTION

Why

It is Congress's job to oversee how the laws it passes are implemented by agencies like the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Congress has charged the EPA with enforcing most of the laws that protect environmental health by controlling the release of pollution and hazardous materials into the air, water and land. Without effective enforcement, **these laws are meaningless**. Congress can strengthen EPA enforcement by increasing resources to the EPA, passing more effective laws, requiring better data collection, and general oversight. In the **House of Representatives**, the **Energy and Commerce Committee** is the main committee that oversees the EPA. In the **Senate**, the **Environment and Public Works Committee** is the main committee that oversees the EPA.