

From: "Rep. John Duarte" <Duarte.press@mail.house.gov> To: Alexa.Manning@mail.house.gov Subject: TEST Newsletter Date: Mon, 17 Jun 2024 10:26:34 -0400 Update from Congressman Duarte Dear Friend, As your Congressman I wanted to provide you an update of what I'm up to in Washington and in the Valley. Supporting Valley Service Members Supporting the men and women of our military is a top priority of mine. I am proud to support the Fiscal Year 2025 National Defense Authorization Act (FY25 NDAA) that passed the House last week. This bill, which sets policy for the military, increases pay for junior enlisted service members by 19.5%, supports Israel in its conflict with Hamas terrorists, and counters China. This bill is now pending in the U.S. Senate.

Meeting with the California Paralyzed Veterans of America Image:Photo , Caption: I met with veterans from California. In addition to votes, this past week I had the privilege to meet with veterans from California with the Paralyzed Veterans of America organization. I was humbled to learn about their service and the sacrifices they and their families made on behalf of our nation. We discussed legislation important to paralyzed veterans and issues like expanding caregiver access, long-term service and support and more. I look forward to working with these veterans to advance their priorities in Congress. And if you are a veteran or a family member of a veteran experiencing difficulty with receiving the benefits or services your military service entitles you to, please contact my Turlock District Office for assistance.

Meeting with the San Luis and Delta-Mendota Water Authority Image:Photo , Caption: I met with local water and irrigation officials from the San Joaquin Valley. I also met with officials from the San Luis and Delta-Mendota Water Authority, Westlands Water District, and the San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Water Authority. Together, we are ensuring our communities and farms get the water Valley families need to thrive. We talked about how Valley farmers and small towns that receive water through the federal government are only currently getting 40% of what they are supposed to. That is like doing your job for a year but only getting paid 40% of your pay, that is unacceptable. That is why I led a new law WATER for California Act, with my California colleagues to fix this. I am also working on other ideas to bring more water to our Valley—stay tuned for more details.

Meeting with Family-Owned Business in California Image:Photo , Caption: I met with officials from Baker Commodities. In addition, I met with representatives from a family-owned business, called Baker Commodities, which operates a facility in Kerman to discuss agricultural and energy priorities, such the 2024 Farm Bill that sets agriculture policies in the U.S., the importance of biofuels, and taxes. As a family business owner, I know firsthand how onerous government regulations can make doing business tough. That is why since coming to Congress, I have advocated for and supported commonsense legislation to help small and family-owned businesses keep more of their own hard earned money and expand so they can create more jobs in our community. Join me at Service Academy Night In addition, I met with representatives from a family-owned business, called Baker Commodities, which operates a facility in Kerman to discuss agricultural and energy priorities, such the 2024 Farm Bill that sets agriculture policies in the U.S., the importance of biofuels, and taxes. As a family business owner, I know firsthand how onerous government regulations can make doing business tough. That is why since coming to Congress, I have advocated for and supported commonsense legislation to help small and family-owned businesses keep more of their own hard earned money and expand so they can create more jobs in our community.

photo It is my honor to be your voice in Washington. To learn more about my positions on the issues, share your views with me, request assistance with resolving issues you may have with Federal agencies or programs, or to subscribe to my email list, please visit my website, [https://urldefense.com/v3/\\_\\_https://duarte.house.gov\(https://\\*duarte.house.gov\)\\_\\_;Lw!!Ckt11KV](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https://duarte.house.gov(https://*duarte.house.gov)__;Lw!!Ckt11KV). Sincerely,