

## **Assemblymember Warren Furutani**

California State Assembly (55<sup>th</sup> District)

Assemblymember Warren Furutani is honored to represent the 55<sup>th</sup> Assembly District, which includes the cities of Carson, Lakewood, (North and West) Long Beach, and the Los Angeles communities of Harbor City, the Harbor Gateway and Wilmington.



Warren has over 40 years of experience and involvement in education and public service. Beginning as an activist in the 1960s and then later serving as president of both the Los Angeles Board of Education and the Community College Board of Trustees, Warren has dedicated his career to ensuring that all people have access to a quality and affordable education.

Warren is also chair of the Public Employees, Retirement and Social Security, and serves on the following standing committees: Utilities and Commerce; Transportation; Public Employees, Retirement and Social Security; and Labor. He is also chair of the Asian Pacific Islander American Legislative Caucus, which has ten members.

Warren's work in the Capitol includes legislation related to career technical education, community colleges, clean air quality, and support for small businesses. He also successfully advocated for State resources to help rebuild the Gerald Desmond Bridge in the Port of Long Beach.

In 2008, he authored Assembly Bill 37, which granted honorary college degrees to Japanese Americans whose education was disrupted due to their wrongful incarceration during World War II. This past year, Warren authored Assembly Bill 1775, which establishes January 30 as Fred Korematsu Day of Civil Liberties and the Constitution. Mr. Korematsu challenged the law that imprisoned Japanese Americans during WWII, and so this day of significance will provide California schools a teaching moment about the importance of civil liberties and the protection of a citizen's constitutional rights. Both bills were passed unanimously in both houses and signed by the Governor.

A native Californian and fourth-generation Japanese American, Warren is a product of the Los Angeles public education system. He is married to Lisa Abe Furutani and they are the proud parents of two grown sons.