

Senator Dennis Hollingsworth

Dennis Hollingsworth is the Senator for the 36th District of California, which includes portions of San Diego and Riverside Counties.

Hollingsworth's work in the legislature has earned him the "Legislator of the Year" award from such diverse groups as the California Sexual Assault Investigators Association, the Riverside County Schools Advocacy Association, the League of Off-Road Voters, the California Rifle and Pistol Association, and the California Building Industry Association. His conservative voting record consistently earns him "A" ratings from taxpayer protection and business groups such as the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association and the California Chamber of Commerce. He has also been a strong advocate for protecting homeowners and property owners from the threat of wildfires.

An outspoken advocate for tough laws against child predators, Senator Hollingsworth is the chair of Project KidSafe: a package of legislative proposals intended to protect children from predators and violent offenders. In this capacity, he wrote Assembly Bill 1858, which was signed into law in 2002 and created "SAFE Teams" to coordinate law enforcement agencies in the tracking of violent sex offenders. SAFE Teams are now vital law enforcement tools against sexual predators in San Diego and Riverside Counties, as well as statewide.

Senator Hollingsworth is President of the Proposition 22 Legal Defense Fund, and was an official proponent of Proposition 8 on the November 2008 ballot, which protected traditional marriage in California. He also serves as California State Public Sector Chairman of the American Legislative Exchange Council, the largest national organization of state legislators dedicated to the principles of free enterprise, limited government and individual liberty.

Senator Hollingsworth serves as the Vice Chair of the Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee and is a member of the Senate Food and Agriculture Committee as well as the Senate Select Committee on Autism and Related Disorders

He previously served as Assistant Republican Leader and Republican Caucus Whip, and was Vice-Chair of the Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee from 2004-2008. Hollingsworth was elected the California State Senate in November of 2002, after serving one term as the Assemblyman for the 66th District.

In response to increasing efforts to shut down hunting and fishing seasons and to destroy California's outdoor heritage, Senator Hollingsworth helped found, and serves as co-chairman of the California Legislature Outdoor Sporting Caucus, a bipartisan, bicameral organization modeled after the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus in Washington, D.C. His efforts in this regard earned him the award of National State Legislator of the year from Safari Club International.

Prior to serving in the legislature, Hollingsworth was a business owner and Legislative Director for the Riverside County Farm Bureau. He attended Cal Poly State University, San Luis Obispo and Cornell University where he studied Dairy Science, Agricultural Management and International Relations.

Dennis and his wife, Natalie, live in Murrieta with their two sons and daughter.