



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
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**CONTACT:** Jesse M. Switzer  
(562) 429-0470

**Assemblymember O'Donnell Goes to Bat for  
California Coastal Commission's Executive Director**

**(LONG BEACH)** – Assemblymember Patrick O'Donnell (D-Long Beach) issued the following statement today in reference to a letter addressed to the Governor signed by the Assemblymember and other legislative leaders regarding Executive Director of the California Coastal Commission, Dr. Charles Lester.

“As an Assemblymember representing a coastal district, I am proud to stand with my colleagues in support of our coastline and Dr. Charles Lester.

Under the Coastal Act, Californians have enjoyed open access to the state's most valuable natural resources. For years, I have relied on proper enforcement of the Coastal Act to safeguard our environment and save the Los Cerritos wetlands for my children, students and community.

I believe replacing Dr. Lester to make the Commission more open to the interests of lobbyists and developers would severely undermine its primary mission to protect our treasured coasts for future generations.”

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*Assemblymember Patrick O'Donnell represents the 70<sup>th</sup> Assembly District which includes Long Beach, Signal Hill, San Pedro and Catalina Island.*