



### ***Can order come from chaos?***

Scandals such as the IRS targeting of conservative groups, the unresolved tragedy at Benghazi and legislation that undermines the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment have polarized voters. I believe 2014 has the potential of being a big year for citizen involvement. The aftermath of big-government programs like Obama Care and Covered California have fueled chaos and confusion. There will be voter remorse.

I'm an example of citizen involvement. I have stepped up to represent the people of the 48th Assembly District. Here in California, taxpayers have been over-taxed, over-regulated and had to endure the blizzard and impact of bad legislation and policies that have driven away jobs and made our communities less safe from criminals.

People often ask me what I plan to do. My answer is to begin eliminating the one-party, super-majority rule in the State Legislature. We must restore balance to achieve order. We must call out the majority for the damage they have caused to the economy and burdens placed on all Californians. We have representatives in the majority who no longer serve in the interest of the people. Legislators have pushed legislation to socially engineer our schools rather than further the educational process. Unelected boards have imposed environmental laws that have put hard-working people out of business. What's worse, is it appears the majority won't reform themselves or those they have delegated powers to. We just need to vote them out of office. One of those is our current Assemblyman Roger Hernandez. His "F" grades on his legislative report cards from several taxpayer and commerce groups are a reflection of what's wrong with government.

Once the people restore balance, the road to prosperity can start with returning private-sector jobs to the state. I say give all business an equal footing to start up and expand. Make the whole state an "enterprise zone." That means lowering taxes at every level to stimulate investment and growth. We must eliminate regulations and fees that kill jobs.

If we are to fill those jobs, we must address the skills gap in education. 21st century industrial and manufacturing jobs require technical skills. We need to refocus education to some key vocational fields if we are to be competitive in the free market system.

We must move immediately to protect our communities from crime. I am a retired peace officer and Commissioner for the County Probation Department. I am concerned about crime and justice. Our corrections system has failed us since the implementation of AB109, Prison Realignment. It has been more like "Mal-alignment." Liberals in state government and the Legislature have failed to see the harm they have done. The result has been that tens of thousands of convicts have been released early. In many cases convicts have not served their full sentences. Justice has been compromised and as criminals often do when released, they return to a life of crime. At the center of this issue is prison overcrowding. Here's an answer; Build More Prisons! Let's not warehouse prisoners but think about smart prisons that provide an opportunity to earn a marketable skill and rehabilitation and treatment to those who qualify. We must stop shifting the burden of incarceration to counties that are ill-equipped to handle the load of incarceration and supervision.

Citizens should expect nothing less than a representative who works in their greater interest. I will consider the impact of each piece of legislation to determine how it will affect taxpayers, our economy, public safety and it meets a high standard of fiscal responsibility. I will put forward legislation that promotes life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness for all Californians.

Being a member of the Assembly is not just only for a district but works for all people of the state. Go to [vote4joegardner.com](http://vote4joegardner.com) and learn more about me. I have built my life in service to others. I will bring the values of honor and integrity as your assemblyman.