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JOE GARDNER
Republican for Assembly District 48

Communities in the district

Azusa, Baldwin Park, Bassett, Bradbury, Charter Oak, Citrus, Covina, Duarte, East Arcadia, El Monte, Glendora, Industry, Irwindale, Monrovia, Ramona, Royal Oaks, Valinda, West Covina

As I listened to talk radio during the day and watched the local late night news, a couple of topics grabbed my interest. One was SB1118, the mattress recycling law that would create a new bureaucracy to dispose of used mattresses. Another was SB969, a law regulating pet groomers.

I also read a Wall Street Journal article written by Allysia Finley entitled "The Weekend Interview, Joel Kotkin: The Great California Exodus" The article is a bleak account about how 4 million people in California have moved from the state over the last 20 years and one of the reasons among others is governmental red tape that includes "Cap-and-Trade, AB32 and the pursuit of green jobs that will yield nothing but high energy bills. It also talks about the progressive war on the middle class and "the train to nowhere," High Speed Rail.

I decided to do some more research this morning. I went to aroundthecapitol.com and found another article written by John Meyers called "Bills, bills, bills; this week at the state capitol." It was there, I discovered AB2441, a bill to tax strip club patrons. If you read further into the article, there are a total of 665 bills in the state Assembly and Senate.

That is 21 bills an hour!

It struck me. Here we are with the state government in fiscal crisis and many citizens struggling in a stagnant economy and we have time to legislate bills like this?

How about a bill to put a moratorium on any more bills, except those that create jobs and cut government waste?

Needless to say, I lost my appetite.