

## **Senate President pro Tempore Toni G. Atkins – State Report for November 2023**

### **Legislative Update:**

- The State Legislature concluded the first year of the 2023-24 Legislative Session on September 14<sup>th</sup>.
- The Legislature sent 1,046 bills to Governor Newsom this year. He signed 890 pieces of legislation into law and vetoed 156.
- All four of Senator Atkins' bills that advanced through the Legislature were signed into law by Governor Newsom. These pieces of legislation strengthen reproductive rights (SB 385 and SB 487), replace the state travel ban with a nonpartisan LGBTQ+ outreach and inclusion campaign (SB 447), and establish greater accountability and transparency over in-custody deaths that occur at county jails (SB 519).
- One major accomplishment that won bipartisan near-unanimous approval in the Assembly and Senate is a legislative package that acts on the homelessness crisis by addressing mental health issues and by significantly changing how individuals who are living on the street and who cannot help themselves due to mental illness can be placed under a conservatorship to receive care.
  - Two measures that will go before voters in March. One implements structural reform to the Mental Health Services Act, and the other is a \$6.3 billion bond to build more than 10,000 units of desperately needed treatment beds and housing to get people the help and housing they need.
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