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STATE ASSEMBLY, 56TH DISTRICT

I stood up to the gangs and they threatened me. But I am not a hero. I want our children to grow up safe, attend good schools, get the health care they need and have a chance for a good job.

That will be my agenda in the State Assembly.

My wife and I are both elementary school teachers. We know that children cannot learn if they are sick or hungry or afraid of getting hurt.

If they see gangs and drugs in their neighborhoods, they will learn that behavior. If their schools are overcrowded and lack computers and books, they will learn that education isn't as important as we tell them it is.

California has been the land of college opportunity. Our parents and grandparents built our community colleges and universities. They sacrificed to keep college affordable and accessible.

The quality of California's workforce brought business to our state and created the largest middle class in the world. Too many high school students are dropping out at an alarming rate. And those who do graduate are finding it harder and harder to go to college. Is it any wonder that California is losing quality jobs to other countries?

Education, health care and public safety are the best investments we can make in our children. And investing in our children means investing in our future.

And the future is why I am running for Assembly. I appreciate your consideration when you vote.

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