



**NEWS RELEASE**

*Senator*  
**Lou Correa**

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## **Correa Appointed Chair to the Senate Select Committee on California-Mexico Cooperation**



*PHOTO FROM ARCHIVE: California State Senator Lou Correa (right) during a business meeting in Sacramento last month with the Mexican Ambassador to the U.S. Arturo Sarukhán (left).*

**Sacramento, CA** – The Senate Committee on Rules recently voted to name Senator Lou Correa (Orange County) as the Chair of the Select Committee on California-Mexico Cooperation. The primary jurisdiction of this committee is to study and make recommendations to the Legislature regarding infrastructure, economic development, social and civic exchanges of mutual benefit to California and Mexico, as well as border related matters.

“Under California’s current struggling economic climate we must identify and maximize our resources to aid the state’s economic recovery. I believe California-Mexico Cooperation committee could play a key role in such a recovery,” said Senator Correa.

According to the California Chamber of Commerce, **Mexico continues to be California's number one export market**. California exports to Mexico totaled \$21 billion in 2010. Mexico purchases 15 percent of all California exports. The Tomás Rivera Policy Institute published a study in 2004 titled “The Economic Impact of the México-California Relationship.” This study assessed the estimated total value of the México-California relationship at over \$156 billion annually. The same study revealed that there were over 200,000 jobs every year in California supported by the México-California relationship.

Senator Correa has a history of working on California- Mexico issues, both as a member of the Senate, and previously as a member of the Assembly. Senator Correa is currently a member of the Border Legislative Conference (BLC). The BLC is a federal program that serves as a mechanism for on-going dialogue and collaboration among state legislators of the United States and Mexico.

In closing, Senator Correa stated: "As chairman of this committee, I will focus on bringing a balanced approach to address bilateral issues between Mexico and California that have a direct impact upon our state's economy. I am confident that my experience in the public and private sectors, and my active participation in promoting California's products and services to foreign countries will allow me to bring a comprehensive vision to the California-Mexico Cooperation Committee; a vision that would help our state increase exports and other economic activities, thereby protecting California existing export-related jobs."

Senator Lou Correa represents the 34th District, which includes the cities of Anaheim, Buena Park, Fullerton, Garden Grove, Santa Ana, Stanton and Westminster. ###