

# LACN LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Legislative and Regulatory E-mailed news and information  
from the Lumber Association of California & Nevada

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This E-mailed report is a service of your Lumber Association of California & Nevada with current information on legislative and regulatory matters. In most instances there will be additional information attached with this report. If there are others in your firm who should receive this report, please contact [kend@lumberassociation.org](mailto:kend@lumberassociation.org).

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## **Leadership Battles Begin as Term Limits Initiative Fails**

By Dennis Albiani, California Advocates, Inc., LACN Contract Lobbyists

It did not take long to initiate leadership battles for control of three of the four caucuses in the California State Legislature. Two days after the defeat of Proposition 93, which would have altered term limits by allowing members to serve their entire allotted 12 years in one legislative house, was defeated in Tuesday's primary election.

The Senate Democrats were first to select a new leader, Darrel Steinberg from Sacramento. Thursday afternoon, President Pro Tem Don Perata called a press conference following the Senate Democrat Caucus to announce Steinberg's selection. While Steinberg will assume full duties as Senate President Pro Tem on August 21, it is likely he will begin coordinating internal policy discussions, leadership activities and managing caucus priorities behind the scenes immediately.

Assembly Democrats decided in closed session on Thursday that an election for a new Speaker will occur on March 11. Núñez, is expected to retain the Speaker title through the end of the year but the new "Speaker-elect" will spearhead fundraising for this year's Assembly elections and work with the outgoing leader on business of the house.

Below is a list of the early candidates for Speaker, their hometown and their term limit: Karen Bass, Los Angeles, 2010; Kevin de Leon, Los Angeles, 2012, Hector De La Torre, South Gate, 2010; Alberto Torrico, Fremont, 2010; Fiona Ma, San Francisco, 2012; Charles Calderon, Whittier, 2012; Mike Feuer, Los Angeles, 2012; Anthony Portantino, La Canada, 2012; Ed Hernandez, Baldwin Park, 2012.

The Senate Republicans will also be choosing a new leader this year since Dick Ackerman will be retiring due to term limits. No date has been set, however this caucus has been the most aggressive over the past year, requiring Senator Ackerman to consolidate power after holding off two runs on his leadership position. Likely candidates for the Senate Republicans include Dave Cogdill, Modesto; George Runner, Antelope Valley; and Dennis Hollingsworth, Murrietta.

It is sure to be a dynamic year with the current \$14 billion budget shortfall, the second year of a legislative session, implementation of many administrative initiatives including Green Chemistry and AB 32, and the selection and indoctrination of new leaders in 3 of the 4 caucuses in the Legislature.