



JEWISH COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL
of San Francisco, the Peninsula, Marin, Sonoma, Alameda and Contra Costa Counties

The Jewish Community mourns the loss of Congressman Tom Lantos

February 11, 2008

The Jewish Community Relations Council of San Francisco, the Peninsula, Marin, Sonoma, Alameda, and Contra Costa Counties (JCRC) sends its condolences to the family, friends and extraordinary staff of Congressman Tom Lantos, who passed away on February 11.

Congressman Lantos represented California's 12th District in the House of Representatives for three decades. He was Chairman of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs and founding Co-Chairman of the Congressional Human Rights Caucus.

Rabbi Doug Kahn, Executive Director of the JCRC issued the following statement:

"Congressman Tom Lantos' career modeled the ideals of public service. He brought great humanity to the halls of Congress, fighting for human rights, and standing against anti-Semitism, bigotry, and Holocaust denial. He was a friend to the Jewish community and a tireless advocate for the State of Israel. Our deepest sympathies go out his daughters, his grandchildren, and his wife Annette who shared his passion for justice and human rights born out of their experience as survivors of the Holocaust. We will miss his eloquent voice and leadership greatly."

Leslie Kane, Executive Director of the Holocaust Center of Northern California issued the following statement:

"He had a remarkable life story as the only survivor to serve in the United States Congress. His experience during the Holocaust and as a survivor deeply sensitized him to the ongoing need for human rights. He championed human rights for all people and had an international impact."

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The Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) is the central public affairs and community relations arm of the organized Jewish community. Representing more than 80 congregations and Jewish institutions throughout the Bay Area, JCRC promotes a just society and a secure Jewish future.