



## **Assemblyman Rich Gordon Biography**

Assemblyman Rich Gordon represents the heart of the Silicon Valley. He was first elected to the State Assembly in November 2010 and represents the 24th Assembly District on the San Francisco Peninsula in San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties.

Assemblyman Gordon previously served for 13 years on the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors. As a County Supervisor, he worked to achieve government accountability by leading in the development of the County's outcome-based budgeting and was instrumental in the formation of regional partnerships including the Housing Endowment and Regional Trust. Assemblyman Gordon was actively involved in the creation of the Children's Health Initiative, which guarantees health care coverage for children. In 2008, he served as President of the California State Association of Counties, which represents all 58 counties.

Assemblyman Gordon also served as a member of the San Mateo County Board of Education for five years. Prior to public service, he was a minister in the United Methodist Church, and for twenty years he worked in the non-profit sector where he was the founder and Executive Director of Youth and Family Assistance.

As a legislator, Assemblyman Gordon has been committed to ending the gridlock in Sacramento by trying to fix the dysfunction of the state's governing system and structure, ensuring that California invests in the education of its children, maintaining the state's position as a leader in environmental protection, and fighting for all of California's residents having access to healthcare. Recognizing that heightened partisanship has limited the ability of legislators to fully serve their constituents, Assemblyman Gordon has worked to forge relationships on both sides of the aisle and across all political spectrums.

Assemblyman Gordon is a fourth generation Californian - born and raised in San Mateo County. He completed high school in Orange County, and graduated from the University of Southern California. He has a Masters in Divinity from Garrett Theological Seminary at Northwestern University. He resides in an unincorporated neighborhood in Menlo Park with his husband, Dr. Dennis McShane. Assemblyman Gordon and Dr. McShane have been in a committed relationship since 1982 and were married on August 16, 2008.