

# Legislative Profile:

## Tony and Audra Strickland

As a former owner of several Thoroughbreds (favorites include Railroad and Pennysenyan), Senator Tony Strickland and his wife, Assemblywoman Audra Strickland, are very familiar with both the difficult challenges faced by this industry and the rich rewards it offers for owners, fans, workers and local communities.

The Stricklands are long-time advocates for working California families. They've been taught the same values – honesty, integrity, and hard work – that they hope to impart to their children and that they strive to bring to public office.

Tony Strickland was first elected to the 37th Assembly District in November 1998 and served until “termed out” in 2004. He was recently elected to the 19th Senate District which includes portions of Ventura, Santa Barbara, and Los Angeles counties.

As a member of the California State Senate, Senator Strickland's top priority is growing California's economy. He believes the best way to preserve funding for vital programs like healthcare, education, and transportation is by creating jobs. He is committed to working with both Democrats and Republicans to transition California to a renewable, more energy-efficient state, reduce our dependence on foreign oil, improve the environment, and lower energy prices.

Tony has been on a number of boards (Ventura County Council Boy Scouts of America, Moorpark Boys & Girls Club, Consumer Credit Counseling Service, etc.) and is active in numerous civic, business and church organizations throughout Ventura County. Earlier this year, Tony Strickland also signed a one-year contract with the Los Angeles Lightning of the International Basketball League (IBL).

Audra Strickland was first elected to serve in the 37th Assembly District in 2004 and was overwhelming reelected in 2006 and 2008. The 37th Assembly District includes the communities of Acton, Agua Dulce, Camarillo, Canoga Park, Castaic, Chatsworth, Fillmore, Los Angeles, Moorpark, Newbury Park, Oak View, Ojai, Piru, Santa Paula, Simi Valley, Somis, Thousand Oaks, and West Hills.

As a member of the Assembly, Audra Strickland's legislative priorities include stabilizing the state's economy, tax relief for California's families, public safety and improving education. Major legislation introduced by Assemblywoman Strickland includes eliminating the state's unfair double tax on gasoline, reducing property taxes for homeowners, limiting the ability for state politicians to increase college tuition, and strengthening punishments for sexual predators.

Audra is also involved with a variety of local organizations and causes, from a cancer awareness effort to a battered women's support organization. In 2002, her dedication to her community was recognized by her appointment to the Ventura County



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Board of Education and receipt of the Teacher of the Year award from the Ventura County Republican Women's Federated.

As a couple, Tony and Audra understand and appreciate the horse racing industry. Tony has authored legislation to permit the California Horse Racing Board to set deductions for new types of wagering and changed the definition of a California standardbred horse to include only a standardbred foal conceived in California by a stallion registered with the California Standardbred Sire Stakes Program. On a personal note, Tony Strickland is close friends with trainer Ted West Jr. and jockey Aaron Gryder.

The Stricklands have been married for 11 years and reside in Moorpark with their two children, Ruby Ruth and Anthony Paul.