

## Congressman Jim Costa

U.S. House of Representatives  
(California 20<sup>th</sup> District)



In January 2005, following a distinguished 24-year career as a member of the California State Legislature, Jim Costa was sworn in as Member of the U.S. House of Representatives representing California's 20th Congressional District.

The grandson of Portuguese immigrants who settled in the fertile San Joaquin Valley near the turn of the 20th Century, Congressman Costa represents a district as diverse in people as it is in crops. Made up of portions of Fresno and Kern Counties and all of Kings County, the 20th Congressional District is home to a thriving agriculture industry which produces much of what America eats. Fresno County is the nation's number one agriculture producing county, Kern County ranks third and Kings County is ninth.

Raised on a dairy farm in Fresno's Kearney Park area, Costa is a third-generation family farmer. Costa's committee assignments reflect his long-standing interest in the 20th Congressional District's major issues including agriculture and water policy. He serves on the House Agriculture Committee, where he is a member of the Subcommittees on Livestock, Dairy and Poultry; and Conservation, Credit, Energy and Research. On the House Natural Resources Committee Costa is Chairman of the Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources and is a member of the Subcommittee on Water and Power. Costa is also a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee where he serves on the Subcommittees on the Middle East and South Asia; and Europe. Costa is a member of the fiscally-conservative Blue Dog Coalition and co-founder and co-chair of the Congressional Victims' Rights Caucus. He is also a co-founder of the Congressional Water Caucus and a co-founder of the Congressional Organ Donation Caucus.

Costa has been a leader on high-speed rail and transportation issues. While in the State Legislature, Costa was the original author of the high-speed rail bond that Californians went on to approve in 2008. The bond measure allocated \$9.95 billion towards the state's high-speed rail project. Costa continues to work at the local, state, and federal level to move California's high-speed rail project forward.