



January 15, 2025

The Honorable Scott D. Wiener  
Chair, Senate Legislative Ethics  
1020 N Street, Room 554  
Sacramento, California 95814

Erin Peth  
Chief Counsel, Senate Ethics Committee  
1020 N Street, Room 554  
Sacramento, California 95814

**RE: Complaint of Violation of Standards of Conduct by a Member of the Legislature**

Dear Chairman Wiener:

At a time of growing public distrust of government institutions and elected officials, we believe it is imperative to the health of our democracy that we always hold Members of this Legislature to the highest ethical standards. While unsubstantiated and untrue allegations are sadly commonplace in politics today, when a formal complaint is brought by a law enforcement agency that raises questions about the integrity of a Member, we cannot simply ignore this matter.

On December 12, 2024, Assemblyman Bill Essayli informed your committee that the U.S. Department of Justice had filed and made public a plea agreement on December 5, 2024 detailing a criminal “bribery scheme” involving an elected official (see attached references to “Person 20”) and requested that you investigate whether said official was a sitting Member of the Legislature. Since then, “Person 20” has now been publicly identified by numerous media outlets as State Senator Susan Rubio.<sup>1 2</sup>

While no charges have been filed, the media reports have led to public scrutiny of Senator Rubio and our institution. As such we are writing to demand that your committee immediately investigate the allegations raised in the criminal complaint and release your findings to the public as soon as possible. The public deserves to know 1) if “Person 20” is indeed Senator Rubio, 2) whether Senator Rubio engaged in the conduct alleged in the plea agreement, and 3) what action this Legislature will take to ensure we hold our Members to the highest ethical standards.

While we fully defend the rights afforded Senator Rubio in potential legal proceedings, those rights are separate and distinct from the need to protect the integrity and reputation of the Legislature. As such, we look forward to receiving confirmation that you intend to look into this matter.

Carl DeMaio  
Assemblyman, District 75

James Gallagher  
Assembly Republican Leader

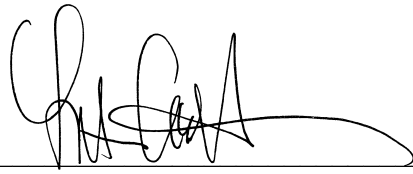
<sup>1</sup> <https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2024-12-12/california-senator-susan-rubio-corruption-investigation-cannabis-bribery-scheme>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.dailynews.com/2024/12/18/investigate-sen-susan-rubio-on-cannabis-corruption-claims/>



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Bill Essayli  
Assemblyman, District 63



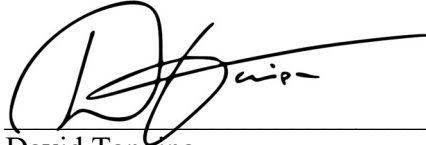
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Leticia Castillo  
Assemblywoman, District 58



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Jeff Gonzalez  
Assemblyman, District 36



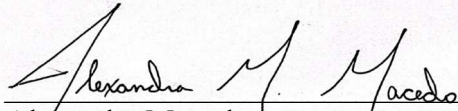
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David Tangipa  
Assemblyman, District 8



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Tri Ta  
Assemblyman, District 70



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Alexandra Macedo  
Assemblywoman, District 33