## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

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## Patrick Ahrens Sworn in as Assemblymember for District 26

**SACRAMENTO, CA** – Patrick Ahrens was sworn in today as the Assemblymember for District 26 in the State Capitol. Representing the heart of the Silicon Valley, including Sunnyvale, Santa Clara, Cupertino, West San José, and Alviso, Ahrens is committed to tackling key issues such as affordable housing, education, and economic opportunity.

Assemblymember Ahrens said, "I am proud to be elected and represent the Silicon Valley in the State Assembly and will work hard every day to help improve the lives of my constituents and all Californians. My office is open immediately to consider legislative proposals and support any constituent needing assistance with state government. My top legislative priority as Assemblymember will be to pursue anti-poverty policies that tackle the cost-of-living crisis and help create economic opportunities and prosperity for all Californians."

A native of the Silicon Valley, Ahrens overcame significant hardships, including homelessness during his college years. These experiences fueled his passion for public service and inspired his career advocating for affordable housing and education equity. Prior to joining the Assembly, Ahrens served as a Trustee on the Foothill-De Anza Community College District Board, where he led efforts to build affordable housing for faculty, staff, and students, and collaborated with Santa Clara County to establish a first-in-the-state medical clinic at De Anza College.

Ahrens earned an associate degree from De Anza College, a bachelor's degree from the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA), and a master's degree in public administration from San José State University. He resides in Sunnyvale and is proud to represent the vibrant communities of Santa Clara County in the State Assembly.