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Assembly Chamber, Sacramento
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Pursuant to the provisions of Joint Rule 59, the following Assembly Journal for the 2017–18 Regular Session was printed while the Assembly was in Interim Study Recess.

COMMUNICATIONS

The following communication was presented by the Speaker, and ordered printed in the Journal:

December 8, 2017

*The Honorable Anthony Rendon
Speaker of the Assembly
State Capitol, Room 219
Sacramento, California*

Dear Speaker Rendon: I would like to inform you that I plan on stepping down from my Assembly seat and as Chair of the Committee on Banking and Finance effective January 1, 2018.

Representing the 45th Assembly District has been one of the greatest honors and privileges of my life. I came to Sacramento to fight for and protect Valley families. I am proud of what we have been able to accomplish, including protecting vulnerable consumers and seniors from fraud, expanding efforts to promote financial literacy, and passing Jordan’s Law, first-in-the-nation legislation to protect against social media-motivated violence. I have also been honored to work with you and my colleagues in the Assembly to protect workers, safeguard our environment, and improve our education system. I know that my friends and neighbors in the Valley are better off now because we did this hard work together.

To be absolutely clear, the allegations made against me are not true. However, due to the current environment, I, unfortunately, no longer believe I can serve my district effectively, as I have done for the last

four years. My stepping down at this time does not change my full commitment to cooperating with the Assembly Rules Committee and the law firm with which it contracts to complete a full and independent investigation. Beyond the salacious headlines, I am confident that the completed investigation will bring to light and into focus the significant and persuasive evidence of my innocence.

I remain inspired by the many brave women across the country who have recently come forward with their stories. Clearly, our culture needs to change; our policies need to change; and, our work on behalf of women's rights must advance. I will continue to support this fight as a private citizen in any way that I can. As we battle for change, we must remember that due process exists for a reason. We should never fight injustice with injustice.

I want to thank my talented staff who have dedicated their careers to and have worked so hard in fighting for the public good. I would like to also thank my constituents in the Valley for including me in your events, sharing your opinions, and, most importantly, trusting me with the responsibility of being your Assemblymember. Most of all, I would like to thank my family and the many people who have reached out to offer support.

Much remains to be done, and regardless of what the future holds for me, I look forward with hope and determination to working together on the challenges that our community continues to face.

Sincerely,

MATTHEW DABABNEH, Assembly Member
Forty-fifth District

(NOTE: Effective date of resignation of Assembly Member Dababneh revised to January 2, 2018. See Assembly Journal for January 2, 2018, page 3656.)

ANTHONY RENDON, Speaker

AMY LEACH, Minute Clerk