



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
May 31, 2018

CONTACT: Paige Pelonis
(562) 429-0470

O'Donnell Works to Help CSULB Shark Lab Research Increased Local Shark Sightings

(Sacramento) – Assembly Bill 2191 by Assemblymember Patrick O'Donnell (D – Long Beach) to fund research of increased local shark activity and shark sightings along the California Coast passed the Assembly Floor Thursday.

“AB 2191 is about **getting educated** and **staying safe** in our local waters,” Assemblymember O'Donnell said. “I believe it is important that we understand why we are seeing more sharks along our coast so that we can be prepared and safe at the beach.”

The world-renowned California State University, Long Beach Shark Lab is one facility that conducts this critical research.

“For the first time, we have all the technology to answer important questions about the white shark population and how they use our beaches,” CSULB Shark Lab Director Dr. Chris Lowe said. “We just haven't had the funding. Funding from this bill will enable us to provide lifeguards with information needed to enhance beach safety.”

Assemblymember O'Donnell and Dr. Lowe have hosted events throughout the year and worked to educate the public on the importance of this funding.

“I am extremely grateful for the guidance and expertise we have had in our corner from local shark expert, Dr. Chris Lowe,” Assemblymember O'Donnell said. “I look forward to the meaningful impact of the research findings that will be made possible by AB 2191.”

The bill now moves to the State Senate.

###

Assemblymember Patrick O'Donnell represents the 70th Assembly District, which includes Long Beach, Signal Hill, San Pedro and Catalina Island.