

## Senator Stephen “Steve” Padilla, AA

18<sup>th</sup> State Senate District  
Democrat

<https://sd18.senate.ca.gov/>



Years in Office: 29

First elected in 1994

Elected in 2020 to the 18<sup>th</sup> Senate District

2023-24 Commissions and Committee Assignments:

Agriculture Committee, Budget and Fiscal Review Committee, Budget Subcommittee #4 on State Administration and General Government, California Film Commission, Governmental Organization Committee, Housing Committee, Joint Legislative Budget Committee, Joint Legislative Committee on Climate Change Policies, and Natural Resources and Water Committee

Previous Offices Held:

2022–Present Senator, 18<sup>th</sup> District

2016–2022 City Council Member, 3<sup>rd</sup> District, City of Chula Vista

2009–2011 Port Commissioner/Board Member, San Diego Unified Port District

2008–2009 Member, Foreign Relations Council, U.S. Immigration Policy Task Force

2005–2007 Commissioner, California Coastal Commission

2002–2007 Mayor, City of Chula Vista

1994–2002 City Council Member, City of Chula Vista

Education:

1988 A.A. in Law from Western State University, College of Law

1988 A.A. in Liberal Arts and Public Administration from Southwestern College and National University

1986 Graduate from Southwestern Police Academy

1985 Graduate from Bonita Vista High School

Focus:

As a senator, Padilla advocates for enforcing public safety (i.e., wearing masks, social distancing, and relying on science for public health, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic), creating a unified school district within city limits, city finance reforms, expanding access to healthcare, strengthening public education (i.e., improving the quality of public schools, and ensuring every student has a fair shot to succeed), enhancing the quality of life (i.e., establishing income equality, racial equality, and community support), revitalization of Chula Vista (e.g., adding more parks and open spaces, widening/repairing older roads and highways, and conducting waterfront projects), economic recovery (e.g., job creation, managing rapid city growth, and improvements to the health and safety code oversight in mobile home parks).

After graduating from Bonita Vista High School, Padilla became the youngest cadet accepted into the Southwestern Police Academy. A police officer for thirteen years, he was then promoted to Detective, specializing in domestic violence and child abuse. With Padilla’s willingness to serve his community, he made history as Chula Vista’s first Latino and first LGBTQ+ Mayor, and previously, when he was elected to Chula Vista’s City Council, was the first person of color ever to serve in the city office. Currently, Padilla is a published columnist writing on local, state, and national policy issues.

List of CHAIRS Clinics in the 18<sup>th</sup> Senate District of San Bernardino & Riverside Counties:

- Borrego Health - Centro Medico Coachella (Thermal)
- Borrego Health - Centro Medico Mobile Unit (Thermal)\*
- Borrego Health - Centro Medico Oasis (Thermal)
- Borrego Health - Martha's Village (Indio)
- Central City Community Health Center - Indio
- Central City Community Health Center - Mobile Clinic: Galilee Center (Mecca)\*
- Central City Community Health Center - Mobile Clinic: Valley Missionary (Coachella)\*
- Central Neighborhood Health Foundation - Coachella
- Riverside University Health System - Indio
- SAC Health System - Blythe
- SAC Health System - CVRM Behavioral Health (Indio)
- SAC Health System - CVRM Medical (Indio)
- SAC Health System - Indio
- San Bernardino County Department of Public Health - Needles
- Tri-State Community Health Center - Needles

Deferred Area:

- SAC Health System - Mobile Clinic: Southwest Church (Indian Wells)\*

\*Federally Qualified Health Center

\*Mobile Clinic

18<sup>th</sup> Senate District Area:

