



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
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## **STATE CAPITOL PLAYS HOST TO STATE SCIENTIST DAY 2011**

### Thousands of Kids to Experience Science on the West Steps

**SACRAMENTO** – Over three thousand third to sixth grade students will converge on the State Capitol to experience the fascinating world of science through hands-on exhibits and experiments at the 23rd Annual State Scientist Day on Wednesday, May 18 on the West Steps of the State Capitol.

Assemblymember Das Williams (D-Santa Barbara) will be recognized as an Honorary State Scientist for authoring Assembly Concurrent Resolution 7 (ACR 7), which designates May 18, 2011 as State Scientist Day and highlights the important work state scientists do to protect public health, the environment and California's natural resources. Assemblymember Williams will participate in a science experiment with Mad Science at 10:30 a.m.

Students from dozens of elementary schools from throughout Northern California will learn how scientists protect the environment, prepare for and respond to natural disasters, and protect the public from food-borne illness and other diseases. The students can also learn about simple changes they can make in their lives to improve their future. Among the fun and visual activities are:

- California Rocks! – Students will get a close-up look at what causes earthquakes, volcanoes and tsunamis and can jump on board the Make-A-Quake Machine.
- Water Burger – A giant hamburger shows students just how much of California's precious water resources are required to make the popular fast food snack.
- "Are You Smarter Than a 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Science Teacher?" – Students will put their skills to the test to see if they know more about pollution prevention than their teachers.

<b>WHAT:</b>	<b>23rd Annual State Scientist Day</b>
<b>WHO:</b>	<b>State Scientists and Thousands of 3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> Graders</b>
<b>WHEN:</b>	<b>Wednesday, May 18, 2011 - 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. – Assemblymember Das Williams recognized as Honorary State Scientist, 10:30 a.m.</b>
<b>WHERE:</b>	<b>West Steps of State Capitol</b>

The California Association of Professional Scientists (CAPS) sponsors State Scientist Day each spring to promote science education and encourage students to explore careers in science.

For a preview of this year's exhibits, please visit [www.capsscientists.org](http://www.capsscientists.org).

#### **ABOUT CAPS**

*CAPS represents nearly 3,000 state employed scientists working in over 30 state departments in 230 scientific classifications. CAPS members protect the public from life threatening diseases, safe guard our wildlife and abundant natural resources, and protect our air and water from toxic waste and pollution.*