



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Group Demands Assembly GOP Leader Chad Mayes Resign Position
Following “Cap and Trade” Vote & Revelations of Extramarital Affair**
Endorses Assemblywoman Melissa Melendez for Assembly Leader

(Torrance, CA, July 18, 2017) – Yesterday, American Children First broke the news that GOP Assembly Leader Chad Mayes (R-Yucca Valley) was having an affair with Kristin Olsen, the former leader of the Assembly and current Vice-Chair of the California Republican Party. She is also a current member of the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors.

In light of these revelations and his vote to pass the “cap and trade” bill, we call upon Mayes to resign his leadership position so that another member with real principles and conservative values can lead the party. In the absence of his resignation, we call upon the Assembly Republican Caucus to remove Mayes immediately.

“Assemblywoman Melissa Melendez has a backbone and doesn’t just claim to be a conservative,” stated Joseph Turner, found and executive director of American Children First. “She actually has a record to prove it.”

The Mayes-Olsen affair rumors have circulated widely for many months in Sacramento and in California political circles. It wasn’t until American Children First received a copy and confirmed the authenticity of a letter sent to Speaker Anthony Rendon by Olsen’s husband, Rod, that we felt comfortable running the story.

In that April 24, 2017 letter, Mr. Olsen requested an investigation by the Assembly Ethics Committee into whether or not taxpayer dollars and resources were used inappropriately by Mayes or Olsen in the carrying out or concealment of the affair.

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Los Angeles Times political writer Seema Mehta tweeted out Monday night the following comment: "Also notable to see the Mayes-Olson [sic] rumors - long known in Sacramento - publicized tonight just before the vote."

"Why go after one of their own?" Turner asked sarcastically. "All you need to know about Chad Mayes is that the LA Times and Speaker Anthony Rendon sat on news of the affair."

Mayes has often portrayed himself as a conservative warrior to his conservative constituents, playing up his Christian image as a pastor's son in campaigns. However, his record and public comments show that he has no interest in advancing an agenda that puts the future of our American children first.

He has called President Trump's "America First" agenda divisive, opposed the refugee ban, and cited past efforts to oppose illegal immigration as being disastrous for the party.

It is time for an actual Republican to lead the Republican Party.

Joseph Turner is the Executive Director of American Children First and author of the "American Children First" initiative. He previously founded the anti-illegal immigration group Save Our State and also authored the City of San Bernardino Illegal Immigration Relief Act (IIRA) in 2005. The IIRA served as the model for dozens of local jurisdictions, most notably Escondido (CA), Farmers Branch (TX), and Hazleton (PA). Farmers Branch and Hazleton had their ordinances struck down by their respective Courts of Appeals and the Supreme Court refused to hear the appeal for each case. Turner can be reached at: info@americanchildrenfirst.org or at (424) 269-4564.