
Born Aug. 12, 1939, in Los Angeles, Antonovich grew up in his hometown and graduated from John Marshall High School. He went to college at California State University, Los Angeles (CSULA), where he earned a bachelor’s in social science and master’s degree in health science. In 1967 Antonovich took a job teaching government and history in the Los Angeles Unified School District. In 1972 he was elected to the California State Assembly, where he served until 1978.

In 1980 Antonovich defeated incumbent Baxter Ward to represent the Fifth Supervisorial District, which comprises more than 2,000 square miles and includes all or part of the San Gabriel, Pomona, San Fernando, Santa Clarita and Antelope Valleys.

He serves on the Board of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority and the South Coast Air Quality Management District; and is a lieutenant colonel in the California State Military Reserve, assigned to the Office of the Adjutant General Support Group.

During his terms in office, Antonovich has been a champion for public safety, foster programs and parkland preservation.

Among his accomplishments, Antonovich:

- Implemented the High Intensity-Criminal Alien Apprehension and Prosecution Program (HI-CAAP) project, which emphasizes interagency coordination and utilizes state-of-the-art fingerprint and computer technologies to intensify enforcement efforts against repeat criminal illegal alien offenders.

- Initiated the D.I.S.A.R.M. (Developing Increased Safety through Arms Reduction Management) program following the tragic shootings at the North Valley Jewish Community Center. The program has seized thousands of weapons and millions of dollars in illegal drugs and drug money and resulted in thousands of arrests since its inception in February 2000.

- Led efforts to streamline the adoption process for the County’s foster youth.
• Spearheaded the Child Abduction Regional Emergency (CARE) Alert program, a model for the nationwide Amber Alert system, helping to recover abducted children.

• Sponsored legislation to preserve 2,326 acres of open space between Chatsworth and Simi Valley.

Honors have included receiving the 2005 Ambassador for Peace award from the Korean Veterans Association, 2005 Foster Parent of the Year award by Hill Toppers Auxiliary Assistance League of Southern California, 2005 Presidential Volunteer Service Award by Points of Light Foundation, and Counties Care for Kids Award by the National Association of Counties (2003). He also received the Metropolitan News-Enterprise 2002 Person of the Year Award, 2002 Vision Award by the Performing Arts Foundation for Asian-Americans, and the 2002 Good Turn Award by the Boy Scouts of America.

He was named Alumni of the Year by CSULA in 1983.


Antonovich serves on the Tournament of Roses Committee, the Glendale Chamber of Commerce, the Los Angeles Zoo Association, the Good Shepherd Lutheran Home for Retarded Children, and the Oak Tree Replacement Program, and is a member of the Board of Directors for the San Gabriel Valley Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

He and his wife, Christine, have two children: Michael, Jr. and Mary Christine.

Sources: Excerpted from Antonovich’s official biography.