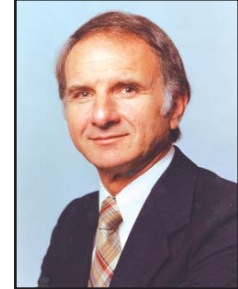




## County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors



### **SUPERVISOR EDMUND D. EDELMAN**

Term: 1974 - 1994  
District: Third  
Date of Birth: Sept. 27, 1930

Edmund D. Edelman served five terms as county supervisor. He was elected in 1974, 1978, 1982, 1986 and 1990.

Born in 1930 and raised and educated in Los Angeles, Edelman began his commitment to public service in 1959, following his graduation from UCLA Law School and admission to the State Bar. His early experience included a clerkship for U.S. District Judge William Byrne, service in Sacramento and staff counsel to the House Subcommittee on Labor under Congressman James Roosevelt, and as special assistant to the general counsel of the National Labor Relations Board in the Kennedy and Johnson administrations.

Edelman launched his career as a public official in 1965, when he was elected to the Los Angeles City Council. He was a councilman until 1974, when he successfully ran for election to succeed the retiring Ernest Debs as a member of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors representing the Third District.

Concerned about those underserved or overlooked in the delivery of public services, Edelman spearheaded the establishment of several new departments and agencies, among them the Department of Children and Family Services, the Department of Consumer Affairs and the Community Youth Gang Services agency. He has been recognized for his support of social service agencies dedicated to aiding the homeless, battered women, abused children, the disabled and the mentally ill, people with AIDS, and those recovering from substance abuse.

Respected by labor and management, Edelman was credited with playing a key role as mediator through the years in averting or settling potentially crippling strikes by County nurses and transit employees, as well as resolving other legal disputes.

A long-time leader on transit issues, Edelman led the drive to bring a subway line to the San Fernando Valley, to relieve one of the County's most congested traffic corridors, and presided over the dedication of the Los Angeles-Long Beach light-rail "Blue Line," L.A.'s first new urban transit line in more than 40 years.

Known as one of the Board's leading environmentalists, Edelman's achievements included successful passage of Proposition A, the Safe Neighborhood Parks Act of 1992, a \$540 million county bond measure to acquire and improve park facilities and parklands throughout the County, and resolution of the County's long-running "Canyon Oaks" development dispute, which

preserved 662 acres of prime Santa Monica Mountains parkland for public use.

Edelman was also recognized for funding programs and capital improvements in the County's recreation and cultural facilities, such as the Museums of Art and Natural History, the Hollywood Bowl, the John Anson Ford Amphitheatre, and the George C. Page Museum of Discoveries.

Edelman married Mari Mayer and had two children -- Erica Nancy and Emily Rose. Upon his retirement from the Board of Supervisors in 1994, Edelman entered private practice as an advisor on public policy issues and as a mediator for labor arbitrations.

Sources: Los Angeles County Records.