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## ASSEMBLY MEMBER MA RETAINS LEGISLATIVE SUSHI TITLE

San Francisco lawmaker defeats two Senators to maintain coveted Samurai sword trophy

**SACRAMENTO** – In a spirited competition, Assembly Member Fiona Ma (D-San Francisco) retained her title as Capitol Roller, signifying California's top legislative sushi maker.

The Assembly Member defeated Senators Anthony Cannella (R-Ceres) and Michael J. Rubio (D-East Bakersfield) during the 10<sup>th</sup> annual California Rice Commission (CRC) Circle of Life Reception, held today at the Sheraton Grand Sacramento.

"I'm excited about defending my championship," Ma said. "I have a deep appreciation for the amount of effort that goes into rice and its importance. We are feeding a lot of the world."

In addition to bragging rights as the top Legislative sushi maker, Assembly Member Ma retains the Capitol Roller award, a framed Samurai sword, until she defends her title in next year's competition.

The three competitors received expert coaching in making a California roll from Billy Ngo, Executive Chef of Kru Restaurant in Sacramento.

About 150 people attended the reception, where the CRC awarded the Circle of Life Award to the Wakamatsu Tea & Silk Colony Project for its work to preserve the first Japanese settlement in North America.

For more information about the Circle of Life Reception, and for photographs, contact CRC Communications Manager Jim Morris at 916/387-2264 or jmorris@calrice.org.

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The California Rice Commission represents the entire California rice industry, including all growers and handlers who farm and process rice produced on some 500,000 acres annually.