



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CLEAR MAJORITY OF DEMOCRATIC PARTY DELEGATES VOTE TO ENDORSE LENA GONZALEZ FOR STATE SENATE

LONG BEACH, CA - The California Democratic Party held a Special Election Endorsing Caucus yesterday in Lakewood to make an endorsement in the 33rd State Senate District. A special election is being held March 26, 2019 to replace Ricardo Lara, who resigned to serve as California's 6th elected Insurance Commissioner.

Although nine Democrats will appear on the ballot, only four sought the Party's endorsement. Long Beach City Councilwoman Lena Gonzalez received the clear majority of the votes cast at the caucus. The votes for the four candidates were:

Lena Gonzalez – 33
Ali Saleh – 0
Jose Luis Solache – 1
Leticia Vasquez-Wilson – 2

Although Gonzalez received almost 52% of the vote, she fell short of the 60% threshold needed for endorsement because several ballots were cast in favor of "No Endorsement." Therefore the official position of the California Democratic Party was that **NO CONSENSUS** was reached in the endorsement process.

The individuals who were able to cast votes in this endorsing caucus are members of the Democratic State Central Committee who reside in the 33rd State Senatorial District including Congressman Alan Lowenthal who personally attended the endorsing caucus to vote for Gonzalez.



The geographic diversity of the delegates who voted for Gonzalez highlights the wide support she is receiving in all parts of the 33rd State Senatorial District.

“With nine Democrats in the race, it is indeed humbling to have received the support of a clear majority of delegates in the 33rd Senate District,” said Gonzalez. “I received support from delegates throughout the district – from Huntington Park to Long Beach – because they know that I will always stand up and defend the values and principles that unite us as Democrats and the notion that anyone, from any walk of life, should have a fair shot at the American Dream.”

Gonzalez’s strong showing in the endorsing caucus, in addition to the scores of endorsements she has received over the last several weeks, continues to build momentum for her campaign.

“It is no surprise that Lena did as well as she did in the endorsing caucus, said Sharon Weissman, long time Party activist and President of the Democratic Women’s Study Club of Long Beach. “Lena is the one candidate in this race who most personifies the values and the principals of the Democratic Party. She has spent her entire career standing up for working families and advocating for good jobs, fair wages, and quality and affordable health care. That is why Lena has support from activists from throughout the 33rd State Senatorial District. No matter where you live in the district, you will have a champion in Lena!”

Gonzalez is running to replace Ricardo Lara, who resigned to serve as California's 6th elected Insurance Commissioner. Lara has endorsed Gonzalez to replace him in the California State Senate.

A primary election will be held on Tuesday, March 26, 2019. If a run-off is needed, the run-off election will be held on Tuesday, June 4, 2019.



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Councilwoman Lena Gonzalez has served on the Long Beach City Council since 2014 representing Downtown Long Beach and surrounding communities. She has served as the Vice Chair of the city's State Legislative committee for the past five years, and chairs the Harbor and Tidelands Committee.

Councilwoman Gonzalez lives in Downtown Long Beach with her husband Adam and their three sons. She graduated with a B.A. in Political Science from Cal State Long Beach and an MBA from Loyola Marymount University. She currently is employed with Microsoft, focused on issues around digital inclusion and tech equity.

The 33rd District includes the cities of Bell, Bell Gardens, Cudahy, Huntington Park, Lakewood, Long Beach, Lynwood, Maywood, Paramount, Signal Hill, South Gate, Vernon, portions of the City of Los Angeles and the unincorporated communities of Florence and Walnut Park.

PAID FOR BY LENA GONZALEZ FOR SENATE 2019 – FPPC ID# 1415216
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