



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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EQUALITY CALIFORNIA AND STONEWALL DEMOCRATIC CLUB ENDORSE LENA GONZALEZ FOR STATE SENATE

Gonzalez is the Clear Choice of the LGBTQ Community for State Senate

LONG BEACH, CA - Long Beach City Councilwoman Lena Gonzalez announced today that she has received the powerful endorsements of Equality California and the Stonewall Democratic Club in her campaign for State Senate.

Gonzalez currently represents the First Council District in the City of Long Beach. She was first elected in June 2014 and unanimously re-elected last year. An ally to and champion for the LGBTQ community, she has hosted many LGBTQ community events in the City of Long Beach, including Transgender Day of Remembrance and an annual Harvey Milk celebration honoring local LGBTQ advocates and leaders. Gonzalez also led an open letter to President Trump in opposition to his anti-transgender agenda and has advocated for funding from the state and federal governments to support LGBTQ business owners.

"Councilmember Gonzalez has dedicated her career to fighting for civil rights and social justice, and we're confident that she would be an effective champion for the 33rd District and for the LGBTQ community in Sacramento," said **Equality California Executive Director Rick Zbur**.

Equality California is the nation's largest statewide LGBTQ civil rights organization. They bring the voices of LGBTQ people and allies to institutions of power in California and across the United States, striving to create a world that is healthy, just, and fully equal for all LGBTQ people. They advance civil rights and social justice by inspiring, advocating and mobilizing through an inclusive movement that works tirelessly on behalf of those they serve.



"Stonewall is delighted to throw our full and enthusiastic support behind Long Beach Councilwoman Lena Gonzalez in her campaign for State Senate," said **Stonewall Democratic Club President Lestor Aponte**. "Lena has a record of fighting for equal rights for all. Throughout her career, Lena has fought to give a voice to the unheard and our most vulnerable populations. Lena has been a valuable ally to the LGBTQ community and we are excited to help elect her to the State Senate."

Since 1975, Stonewall Democratic Club has been the home for progressive Democrats in Los Angeles who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and straight allies of the LGBT community. They were the first "Stonewall Democratic Club" in the country established for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender individuals and their straight allies committed to achieving equality for all and to advancing progressive and feminist values through the Democratic Party. Stonewall is an all-volunteer grassroots non-profit political organization and is among the largest Democratic Clubs in California.

"As a proud LGBTQ ally, I am honored to have earned the endorsements of both Equality California and the Stonewall Democratic Club," said **Councilwoman Lena Gonzalez**. "I've dedicated my career to ensuring that everyone in our society has a fair shot - no matter who you are, where you come from, what zip code you live in, or who you love. I look forward to working with LGBTQ leaders throughout Senate District 33 and across our state to lead on policies that support equality for all."

Equality California and Stonewall Democratic Club join a prominent list of supporters who have endorsed Gonzalez including Congressman Alan Lowenthal, Assemblymember Patrick O'Donnell, Supervisor Janice Hahn, Mayor Robert Garcia and a host of local city council members, community college trustees, school board members, water board members and many labor organizations. The following have previously announced their endorsements of Gonzalez's campaign:

Insurance Commissioner Ricardo Lara
Congressman Alan Lowenthal
Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn
Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis
Long Beach Mayor Robert Garcia

Local Elected Officials

Long Beach Councilmember Suja Lowenthal (ret.)
Long Beach Councilmember Jeannine Pearce
Long Beach Councilmember Tonia Reyes Uranga (ret.)



Long Beach Councilmember Rex Richardson
Long Beach Councilmember Roberto Uranga
Long Beach CCD Trustee Vivian Malauulu
Long Beach CCD Trustee Uduak-Joe Ntuk
Long Beach CCD Trustee Sunny Zia
Long Beach USD Board Member Dr. Juan Benitez
Long Beach USD Board Member Diana Craighead
Long Beach USD Board Member Megan Kerr
Downey Mayor Fernando Vasquez (ret.)
Huntington Park Vice Mayor Karina Macias
Huntington Park Councilmember Manuel "Manny" Avila
Huntington Park Councilmember Graciela Ortiz
Huntington Park Councilmember Marilyn Sanabria
Lakewood Councilmember Jeff Wood
Los Angeles City Councilwoman Nury Martinez
Los Angeles Community College District Trustee Dr. Gabriel Buelna
Norwalk-La Mirada USD Board Member Jesse Urquidi
Paramount Mayor Diane J. Martinez
Rolling Hills Mayor Patrick Wilson
Signal Hill Councilmember Larry Forester
South Gate Councilmember Gil Hurtado (ret.)
Water Replenishment District of So. CA Board Member Rob Katherman

State Legislators

State Senator Scott Wiener
Assemblywoman Lorena Gonzalez
Assemblymember Patrick O'Donnell

Organizations Representing Working Women and Men

California Services Employees International Union (SEIU)
International Brotherhood of Teamsters Local 952
International Longshore & Warehouse Union (ILWU) Local 13
International Longshore & Warehouse Union (ILWU) Local 63
International Longshore & Warehouse Union (ILWU) Local 94
Ironworkers Local 433
Long Beach Firefighters Local 372
Long Beach Police Officers Association
Painters & Allied Trades International Union District Council 36
Plumbers Local 78



Southern California Pipe Trades District Council 16
Teamsters Local 63
United Association Local 250
United Food & Commercial Workers International Union Local 324
Unite-HERE Local 11

Other Organizations

CA Latino Legislative Caucus
Planned Parenthood Advocacy Project Los Angeles

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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