

Christine Lui Chen

Candidate for State Senate, NJ Legislative District 23

Note: in print, please use the full name "Christine Lui Chen" or "Ms. Chen"



Why Christine is running:

Christine Lui Chen, is a neuroscientist and healthcare executive on a mission to expand innovation-driven job growth in central Jersey. She is running for State Senate to stand up to ideological extremism and to bring economic reform. Chen said, "As a business executive, I've led large teams to bring life-saving drugs to patients. But in government, we don't see the same coalition building; we see finger-pointing. That negativity is draining us. Let's work with good ideas from both parties to fix our broken system."

Why this election is important:

This year, there are only 2 states with statewide and gubernatorial elections. All eyes will be on the voters of New Jersey and Virginia. With the potential for federal law changes, a strong State legislature will be New Jersey's last line of defense. The elected Senator's term is during key Congressional and Legislative redistricting in 2020.

Chen is the first woman since in 1987 and the first Asian American to ever run in the general election for NJ Senate in Legislative District 23. Women make up less than 30% of elected officials in NJ.¹ If elected, Chen would be the first Asian-American woman to serve in the New Jersey Senate.

Christine's Bio:

In March, Chen swept all the key County Democratic Committee endorsements in Somerset, Warren, and Hunterdon Counties. And earned endorsements from Phillipsburg Mayor Steve Ellis and Clinton Mayor Janice Kovach.

Chen is qualified for State Senate because of her track record of fiscal responsibility and creating jobs as a healthcare executive. Previously, she was the Chief Operating Officer of NJ's largest Alzheimer's and dementia residential care provider and led a team of over 500 employees across 5 states. She has championed expanding healthcare access and affordability as a leader at Johnson & Johnson, Independence Blue Cross, and QuintilesIMS. For example, her work with the nonprofit TB Alliance and the China Ministry of Health resulted in a published roadmap to bring new tuberculosis treatments to emerging markets.

She studied neuroscience at The Johns Hopkins University, earned a Master's from Columbia University, and an MBA from The Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania. She is an alumna of the Ready to Run program and She Should Run Incubator.

Chen is a first generation Asian-American, born and raised in Monmouth County, New Jersey. She lives in Bridgewater, NJ with her husband, Kent, two children, and pug Mia.

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¹<http://www.npr.org/2016/06/11/481424890/even-with-a-female-presumptive-nominee-women-are-underrepresented-in-politics>
http://www.nj.com/news/index.ssf/2017/03/see_the_nj_counties_with_the_fewest_women_in_polit.html