



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CALIFORNIA LATINO LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS ENDORSES LENA GONZALEZ FOR STATE SENATE

LONG BEACH, CA - Long Beach City Councilwoman Lena Gonzalez announced today that she has received the endorsement of the 33-member California Latino Legislative Caucus in her race to replace former Senator Ricardo Lara in California's 33rd State Senate District. The Senate seat became vacant when Lara was elected and sworn-in as California Insurance Commissioner.

"While there are a number of outstanding candidates seeking to replace Ricardo Lara, Lena Gonzalez stands out as a leader, an advocate, and an active elected official," said Latino Caucus Chairwoman, **Assemblymember Lorena Gonzalez (D-San Diego)**. "Lena grew up in a working-class family and knows how hard the people in Los Angeles County are working to get ahead. She has sponsored over 110 items in her tenure on the Long Beach City Council and has been active on issues from homelessness, transportation, education, the environment and economic growth. The Latino Caucus is pleased to endorse Lena Gonzalez for State Senate District 33."

"As the daughter of a father who was a truck driver and a mother who worked in aerospace, Lena put her life experience to work, fighting to secure funding to combat wage theft against Long Beach truck drivers and other low wage earners and protecting housekeepers and hotel workers from sexual harassment and assault in the workplace," added Latino Caucus Vice Chair, **Senator Maria Elena Durazo (D-Los Angeles)**.

The California Latino Legislative Caucus serves as a forum for members from the State Senate and Assembly to identify key issues affecting Latinos and develop avenues to empower the Latino Community throughout California. Following in the footsteps of generations of pioneering Latinos who settled and helped build this great state, Latino legislators united in 1973 to maximize their power notwithstanding their limited numbers. Since its creation 46 years ago, the Caucus has grown in both numbers and stature. There are now a record 33 members of the



Caucus and more than half of the legislative members are women. The Caucus boasts a rich history of empowerment, legislative and political success and serves as one of the most influential and strategic organizations in California.

"I am honored to have received the endorsement of the Latino Legislative Caucus," said Gonzalez. "Their collective voice is a game-changing endorsement in this race. I look forward to working with them to move forward common sense solutions to California's most complex problems."

Yesterday, Governor Gavin Newsom issued a proclamation declaring a special election in the 33rd State Senate District. 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 State Senate 2018
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