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FORWARD TO A FRIEND →

Hey Elizabeth, we've got a plan for this!

We are 80% of the way to our June fundraising goal.

Can you pitch in a little more to get us all the way to 100% by June 30th?



Women win **open seats** at the same rate as men, so we target them. That strategy is foundational to Close the Gap California and our commitment to a decade of progress. The more open seats, the more progressive women we get to recruit!

Last cycle, Close the Gap California began by targeting just **4** open or winnable seats for the 2018 elections. With unexpected resignations and the mounting Blue Wave, our targets grew to **12**.

2018 turned out to be extraordinary and a dozen new women won seats. **Women are now 31% of the Legislature, up from 21% just a year before.**

Since our start in 2013, we've tested our theory about open seats; improved our methods and raised the bar for recruits.

Why does our campaign run for a decade?

2022: **8** open seats

2024: **39** open seats

2026: **27** open seats

2028: **22** open seats

Those numbers make 2018 look like an entry-level warm up. The sheer numeric opportunity ahead is what makes us certain we can achieve 50% women by 2028.

WE ARE ALMOST READY! What more do we need?

The resources to field a **statewide team of recruiters three times the size of the one we have today.**

We can recruit great women in each and every one of these open seats if we have the resources to find them and work with them.

Will you invest by June 30th? Our ROI is priceless.

DONATE NOW

Help spread the word! [Share our Facebook event](#) and help us reach our fundraising goal by June 30th.

SHARE ON FACEBOOK

Just in time for the debates!

[Gender on the Ballot](#): a new project of the Barbara Lee Family Foundation

CAWP Presidential Watch

TIPS FOR DEBATE-WATCHING THROUGH A GENDER LENS

- ★ Observe the optics of the debate stage from start to finish, including the presence, posture, and positioning of women and men.
- ★ Pay attention to the experiences, perspectives, and identities from which candidates draw in discussing their policy positions and priorities.
- ★ Listen for how the candidates talk to and about women, identifying the frequency, style, and substance of those references.
- ★ Watch for how the candidates engage one another, noting aggression, direct references, and tone of comments or attacks.
- ★ Track questions that moderators ask (or do not ask), noting the substance and intention of the questions, as well as what's asked of whom.
- ★ Consider how style, substance, or symbolism might be different with more or fewer women on stage.



9/4/2019

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