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## Ask close the gap!

April 22, 2014



**Q.** In honor of Earth Day: Does it make a difference on the environmental front if we had more women in office?

**Yes,** according to a [research study](#) by our friends at Rachel's Network. Women in Congress voted for more green legislation than their male counterparts, regardless of party. In California, Senator Fran Pavley has been a leading champion for the environment. Pavley's anti-fracking legislation is the strictest such law in the country. Go Fran!



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**Q.** What does it cost to run for office?

That's one of the toughest questions we hear. **Hint:** It depends on your district and other variables. **Good news:** If you're a strong candidate, you won't need to raise ALL the money yourself!



Find out the answer in our [new blog post](#).

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**Q.** What if I've taken time off from my career to take care of my kids...and my parents, will that be an obstacle to running?





**No,** [says Mary Hughes](#). Think of it as a competitive advantage. See what else she said in the Huffington Post.

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### TOLD YA SO


Nate Silver is one of the most respected number-crunchers in politics. We were gratified that he and his colleagues have confirmed what [we surmised](#) last June from AAUW data: YES, more women in state legislatures means less of a pay gap.

[Let us know](#) who or if YOU should be running for the state legislature.

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**close the gap CA** is a statewide campaign to find talented, progressive women to run for open seats in the California legislature in 2014 and 2016. With focus and a targeted strategy, we can 'close the gap' and not just the gender gap. When we elect progressive women, we take steps to close the school funding gap, the access gap to affordable health and reproductive care, and the growing gap between the wealthy and those in poverty.

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