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Congrats

May 6, 2014



[Join us](#) in wishing Speaker-Elect Toni Atkins all the best in her new position, starting next week. She will be:

- the first Speaker from San Diego
- the first openly lesbian Speaker
- the third woman Speaker

Atkins, a progressive champ, was 48 when she successfully ran for an open seat in the Assembly. A community organizer and policy wonk, she previously served on the San Diego city council and as acting mayor. Here's to more Madame Speakers and an eventual Madame President Pro Tem....



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Happy Mother's Day

Join us on Facebook & Twitter this week while we discuss #WhatMothersNeed, namely:

- no pregnancy discrimination
- paid leave & paid sick days
- equal pay & a fair minimum wage
- affordable & accessible healthcare

We could accomplish these goals with more progressive women serving in the CA Legislature. The number of progressive women has declined in the last decade while the conservatives have been recruiting their women to run. Let's turn the tide and

recruit talented progressive women to run in 2016. Check out our [16 in '16 priority seats](#).

Announcing our next webinar

The topic: "Why Women?"

If you ever struggled to say what you know to be true - why more women in office and in leadership benefits everyone - this free webinar is for you.

When: June 10, noon to 1 pm PT

Speakers:

- Kira Sanbonmatsu, co-author of "More Women Can Run"
- Bryn Sullivan, Senate consultant, CA Women's Legislative Caucus
- Marni Allen, director, Political Parity, discussing #LatinasRepresent

[RSVP now](#) and tell your friends.

Donate

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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