

August 26, 2016



Dear friends of close the gap CA,

We've got exciting news to share. And what better day to make this announcement than on Women's Equality Day?

So here we go...

When we launched CTGCA three years ago we were exploring a strategy to reverse the decline (down from 31% a decade ago to 25% today) of women in the California legislature and achieve gender parity there. Our goal was to find out whether we could identify and recruit talented, progressive women who would be competitive candidates, particularly in open seats.

The 2016 general election results will tell us just how competitive our recruits are, but with progressive women advancing in 15 of 17 target districts, we know that targeted recruiting works.

That's why today we are announcing our Campaign for Progress 2018 - 2028. We can achieve gender parity in the legislature in 2028, but only if we make a strategic, sustained effort. If we identify both the opportunities to win seats and the progressive women leaders who fit the districts, we can succeed.

The elections of 2022, 2024, 2026 and 2028 will all offer significant numbers of open seats resulting from reapportionment and redistricting and term limits. We will find the entrepreneurial women, the environmentalists, the educators and the health experts who know and love their communities and will make the sacrifice to do public service.

CTGCA's Campaign for Progress is the strategic intervention we need to spark momentum and motivate public-spirited women to declare their candidacies.

We also need YOU.

Thank you for all you've done to support CTGCA. Now, we're asking you to make our Campaign for Progress a priority.

Please attend a search party; recommend accomplished women to us; invite us to speak; blog about the importance of having women policymakers in Sacramento and contribute to sustain the campaign.

Imagine the satisfaction of knowing that, on our watch, we delivered a legislature that looked just like California. We can do this!

With enthusiasm for what's ahead and appreciation for what it will take to get there,

The Team at close the gap CA



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**close the gap CA** is a campaign to increase the number of progressive women serving in the California Legislature by recruiting viable, progressive women to run for open seats in targeted, winnable districts. The campaign recruits accomplished women who are pro-choice, pro-public school funding and support paths out of poverty. By partnering with CA progressive organizations, close the gap CA aims to achieve gender parity in the CA legislature in 2028.

\*Federal tax law requires us to publicly report cumulative contributions of \$200 or more. We may not deposit your contribution without your name, occupation, and employer, and may not accept contributions of \$100 or more made in cash. Contributions to close the gap CA are not tax deductible. close the gap CA is a registered 527 organization

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