

# HONOREE: NANCY SKINNER



**A social justice advocate, energy and climate expert, and accomplished legislator, Nancy Skinner recently completed three terms in the State Assembly representing the East Bay cities from Hercules to Oakland.**

Nancy is a leader who understands that workers' rights are human rights, and that safe and healthy workplaces go hand-in-hand with safe and healthy communities. Among her many accomplishments while in the Assembly, Nancy was focused on protecting workers and the surrounding community from hazardous chemicals. Following the August 2012 Chevron refinery fire in Richmond, she spearheaded efforts to significantly increase the number of well-trained staff to conduct inspections of the state's refineries, and authored AB 1634, which requires companies to promptly fix serious hazards when cited by Cal/OSHA.

Nancy served as Chair of three of the Assembly's standing committees: the Rules Committee, the Budget Committee, and the Natural Resources Committee. As Budget Chair, she oversaw California's largest investment in early care and education for children 0 to 4 in over a decade, cut the number of juveniles incarcerated in state facilities by half, and provided new funding to help reduce prison recidivism.

In addition to successful legislation to improve refinery safety and to reduce delays in fixing hazards, Nancy authored dozens of other important new laws including: two groundbreaking gun violence prevention laws; the "E-Fairness" bill requiring sales tax collection from Amazon and internet retailers; California's renewables portfolio standard that requires 33% of electricity to be generated from renewable sources, and expanded incentives for rooftop solar systems; and changes to make food stamps more accessible to families.

Nancy began her career in public service in 1984 as the first and only UC Berkeley student to be elected to the Berkeley City Council. While on the City Council, she introduced the nation's first Styrofoam ban, and co-founded ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability. She also served as Executive Director of ICLEI's US office and International Director of the Cities for Climate Protection program which engaged more than one thousand cities worldwide in efforts to address climate change.

Nancy is also a strong advocate of increasing the number of women in elected office, including launching the Women in Power Pac (WIP Pac) to support Democratic women running for state office. A graduate of UC Berkeley with a BS from the College of Natural Resources and a MA in Education, she co-founded the labor union representing graduate student instructors. Currently, Nancy teaches at UC Berkeley's Goldman School of Public Policy focused on state strategies to address poverty, and serves as a Senior Policy fellow at UC Davis's Energy and Transportation Institutes.

Worksafe expresses our gratitude to Nancy Skinner for her dedication and support. We look forward to her future work as a champion for health and safety at work and everywhere else!