

HONOREE: LORENA GONZALEZ FLETCHER

She's been dubbed the "brain trust for California's most ambitious policy ideas" by POLITICO and the "California Democrat setting the national agenda" by The Atlantic. Now the incomparable **Assemblywoman Lorena Gonzalez Fletcher** has another name: Worker Health & Safety Hero!

Prior to being elected to the Assembly, Lorena was a labor leader and organizer, serving as the first woman and first person of color to be elected CEO and Secretary-Treasurer for the San Diego and Imperial Counties Labor Council, AFL-CIO. Lorena also previously worked as the Senior Advisor to California's Lt. Governor Cruz Bustamante, and she served on the California State Lands Commission and the California Coastal Commission.

After being elected to the California State Assembly in 2013, Lorena quickly became a leading voice in Sacramento. She is known for her progressive policy ideas rooted in the practical, day-to-day concerns of working people. She has authored or co-authored key pieces of legislation to improve working conditions, including measures to prevent sexual harassment and violence in the workplace.

In 2014, Lorena authored historic legislation to allow 6.5 million Californians the ability to earn paid sick leave. When AB 1522 was signed by Governor Brown, California became the first state in the nation to guarantee earned sick days for every single private sector worker regardless of employer size or sector.

In addition, Lorena has passed critical bills to protect the jobs of grocery workers, fight the misclassification of employees as independent contractors, create the first workplace bullying training requirement in the nation, and protect immigrant communities from legal services fraud.



In 2015 she authored AB 1978 in response to the disproportionate impacts of sexual violence against women in the janitorial sector. This bill addressed gaps in our state regulatory scheme that leave too many janitorial workers vulnerable to sexual violence and other violations of their basic workplace rights. It requires all janitorial contractors in the state to register with the Labor Commissioner. It also mandates training on sexual harassment and sexual violence for all supervisors and employees, and it provides avenues to enforce these provisions.

Lorena represents California's 80th Assembly District, which includes southern San Diego County and adjoins the US-Mexico border. Lorena is the first Latina in California history to Chair the Assembly Appropriations Committee. She is also Chairwoman of the Select Committee on Women in the Workplace and Vice Chair of the Latino Caucus.

Thank you, Assemblywoman Lorena Gonzalez Fletcher, for being a strong and unapologetic advocate for workers and their families.