



California National Organization for Women

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California's Largest Feminist Organization Releases 'Report Card' on Legislators' Voting Records

(SACRAMENTO, CA)---The California National Organization for Women (CA NOW) released its "report card" for 2007 this week. The report card is based on the voting record of legislators on 20 significant bills supported by California NOW, all of which came to a floor vote (a vote by all members) in both houses of the State Legislature. Legislators were given credit for a "yes" vote, and no credit for a "no" vote or failure to vote. The issues covered by the bills included civil rights, marriage equality, women in prison, child support, homeless assistance, health care, pay equity, family leave, sex education, and disability benefits.

CA NOW executive director Helen Grieco said: "It is critical to our democracy that we report to the people what their representatives have been doing while serving in office. We need to know when our representatives are consistently voting against progressive policies that work to ensure equality and basic human rights for all, and we need to know who the heroes in our legislature are too."

34 assembly members and 11 senators got a perfect score from CA NOW, voting for all 20 pieces of legislation that CA NOW supported this year. This is five more total than got perfect scores last year. The senators with 100% scores were Elaine Alquist (D-13), Christine Kehoe (D-39), Sheila Kuehl (D-23), Gloria Negrete McLeod (D-32), Carole Migden (D-3), Alex Padilla (D-20), Gloria Romero (D-24), Joseph S. Simitan (D-11), Tom Torlakson (D-7), Pat Wiggins (D-2), and Leland Yee (D-8). The assembly members with 100% were Jim Beall Jr. (D-24), Patty Berg (D-01), Julia Brownley (D-41), Anna Caballero (D-28), Hector De La Torre (D-50), Mike Eng (D-49), Noreen Evans (D-07), Mike Feuer (D-42), Felipe Fuentes (D-39), Mary Hayashi (D-18), Edward Hernandez (D-57), Jared Huffman (D-6), Dave Jones (D-09), Betty Karnette (D-54), Paul Krekorian (D-43), John Laird (D-27), Mark Leno (D-13), Lloyd Levine (D-40), Sally Lieber (D-22), Ted Lieu (D-53), Fiona Ma (D-12), Tony Mendoza (D-56), Gene Mullin (D-19), Fabian Nunez (D-46), Anthony Portantino Jr. (D-44), Curren Price Jr. (D-51), Ira Ruskin (D-21), Mary Salas (D-79), Lori Saldana (D-76), Jose Solorio (D-69), Sandre Swanson (D-16), Alberto Torrico (D-20), and Lois Wolk (D-8). Senators with the lowest scores were Dick Ackerman (R-33) with 10% and Dennis Hollingsworth (R-36) with 5%. Assembly members Joel Anderson and Audra Strickland with 10% scores.

Grieco added, "it is important for people to not only help get legislators elected who will represent the commitment to fairness and equality that most Californians believe in, but we must also make sure once they get there, they stay true to that vision by how they vote."

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