



2018 BizFed Leadership Roundtable Series Assemlymember Wendy Carrillo (51AD)

LOS ANGELES – August 16, 2018

Assemlymember Wendy Carrillo was the special guest of the thirteenth roundtable of the BizFed Leadership Roundtable Series held at Metro Headquarters at Union Station. Elected in December of 2017 in a special election to replace Assemlymember Jimmy Gomez, Assemlymember Carrillo is rapidly learning the legislative process in Sacramento.



She began her term in the Assembly in the 2nd year of the two-year legislative session and was appointed to several key committees – Appropriations, Rules, Public Safety, Health and Water, Parks and Wildlife. The 51st Assembly District encompasses the communities of City Terrace, East Los Angeles, Chinatown, Cypress Park, Eagle Rock, Echo Park, Edendale, Glassell Park, Highland Park, Montecito Heights, Silver Lake, El Sereno, Lincoln Heights and Monterey Hills, several Metro Gold Line stations and the iconic Dodger Stadium.



As each participant introduced themselves, what was said many times, “and I know Wendy from HOPE (Hispanas Organized for Political Equity)”. Assemlymember Carrillo shared her journey of leaving a war torn and dangerous El Salvador as a young child, seeking safety in the United States, and being undocumented as her request for asylum was denied. Her mother and four younger sisters worked hard to improve their lives. She took the bus to school.

Carrillo earned an AA degree from East Los Angeles Community College, a BA degree in Communications from California State University, Los Angeles and a MA in Journalism and Political Science from the University of Southern California. Prior to her election, Carrillo worked as a broadcast journalist for twelve years, followed by communications work for SEIU United Long Term Workers and as communications deputy for a



member of the Los Angeles City Council.

Carrillo has been learning more about the 51st Assembly District every day, she remarked. Carrillo shared that in Eagle Rock the majority of small business owners were women. Schenae Rourk, President of NAWB Los Angeles, brought up the current certification process for women owned, minority owned businesses is cumbersome and



lacking uniformity. The idea of a statewide certification process was discussed and will be explored in the next legislative session.

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The procurement process of public agencies and opening opportunities for disabled veterans business enterprises and others is the topic of AB2762, one of her bills on the Governor's desk. BizFed Board voted to support AB2762.

Partnering with companies for job training, educating the next generation of Californians, workforce development and opportunities, are important issues for Carrillo. These are important tools for her constituents (and all Californians) to improve their lives as well. "Education equals opportunities for justice and equity", she said.



In her first year as an Assemblymember, Carrillo has introduced 24 bills ranging from topics such as the environment, education, health, state highways and parks to name a few. Thirteen of those bills have made it to Governor Brown's desk and three have already been signed in to law.

As a new legislator, Carrillo stated that she wants to learn more about the issues of businesses in the 51AD and the region. Water reliability is a big concern for businesses. Charley Wilson, Chairman of Southern California Water

Coalition expressed the importance of the California WaterFix to the region's economic development.

CEQA was another topic discussed. Sandy Sanchez, Director of Community Development at FivePoint, and other participants expressed the need for CEQA reform. Changes in CEQA requirements are made for sports stadiums and yet not for housing. Reforming CEQA will help in the creation of much needed housing in California.



A good dialogue was established between Assemblymember Carrillo and the BizFed membership. "She enjoyed participating in the Roundtable and let's continue the dialogue", she said.



Participants attending the Roundtable: Joe Ahn, Mayra Alvarez, Steve Bullock, Denise Campos, Javiera Cartagena, Diana Coronado, Robert Duarte, Jr., George Esparza, Christine Frey, John Graff, Ted Green, Raffi Hamparian, Tracy Hernandez, Peter Hidalgo, Lara Larramendi, Dennise Mejia, David Meza, Michael Millman, Wendy Mitchell, Mary Rosas, Schenae Rourk, Steve Samuelian, Lupita Sanchez-Cornejo, Sandy Sanchez,

Elizabeth Shapiro, Brissa Sotelo-Vargas, Pauletta Tonilas, Michael Turner, Danni Wang, Samantha Waterman, Charley Wilson, Will Wright and Marisa Valdez Yeager.