Commissioners

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Los Angeles

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Los Angeles

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Holly Mann
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Glendale

Senator
Gloria Negrete McLeod
Chino

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Woodland Hills

Assemblymember
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Assemblymember
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Superintendent of Public
Instruction

Executive Director

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Legislative Director

Beth McGovern

CALIFORNIA COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

California Commission on the Status of Women

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"No Women Forgotten"

06/2010

California Commission on the Status of Women

The Commission on the Status of Women, a nonpartisan state agency, works in a culturally inclusive manner to promote equity and justice for all women and girls by advocating on their behalf with the Governor, the Legislature and other public policymakers, and by educating the public in the areas of economic and educational equity, access to healthcare, violence against women and other key issue areas.

What are the priorities of the Commission?

- access to healthcare
- child care
- civil rights
- economic justice
- educational equity
- reproductive justice
- sexually-exploited minors
- social services
- violence against women

- family law
- workplace protections
- human trafficking
- LGBTQ equity
- long-term care and aging issues
- teen pregnancy and parenting
- women and corrections
- women veterans
- girls in the juvenile justice system

The California Commission on the Status of Women, **an independent state agency,** represents over 50% of California's population. It is the only agency specifically **dedicated to protecting the interests of California women and girls**, working to promote equal rights and opportunities for women and ensure that enacted legislation and other state action does not discriminate against or undermine opportunities for women and girls.

Established in 1965 as an Advisory Commission under former Governor Pat Brown, then signed into law as a permanent Commission by former Governor Ronald Reagan in 1971, the Commission is charged to study, develop recommendations, and advise the Governor and the Legislature on **inequities in laws, practices and conditions** that affect women. Commissioners are appointed by the Governor, the President Pro Tem of the Senate, and the Speaker of the Assembly. The Superintendent of Public Instruction and the Labor Commissioner are statutory members.

To carry out its mandate, the Commission:

- Holds hearings and legislative briefings on issues impacting women and girls.
- Conducts research and publishes reports on issues related to women.
- Provides testimony and participates in public and legislative committee hearings.
- Makes presentations, conducts workshops, and advises other agencies and women's organizations on issues affecting women and girls.
- Initiates and supports statewide coalitions in providing positive direction on issues of importance to women.
- Reviews all bills introduced in each legislative session, advising the Governor, the Legislature and the public on legislation significant to women.
- Publishes an annual Summary of New Laws Affecting Women and disseminates periodic updates and alerts on important issues.
- Participates in, monitors, and appoints members to the State Advisory Committee on Sexual Assault Victim Services and Prevention Programs in conjunction with the California Emergency Management Agency.