

Congresswoman Linda Sánchez

Congresswoman Linda Sánchez was elected to represent the newly created 39th Congressional District of California on November 5th, 2002. The 39th District includes the towns of Lakewood, Long Beach, Whittier, Cerritos, Hawaiian Gardens, La Mirada, Lynwood and Paramount.

Sánchez's election is historic as she joins her sister Loretta (D–Garden Grove) in the U.S. House. They are the first sisters and the first women of any relation to ever serve in Congress.

Linda Sánchez is an advocate for California's working families. She is committed to reducing crime, making public schools safe and secure for our children, providing quality education and affordable health care, improving our economy by creating economic opportunities, and decreasing unemployment.

Sánchez serves on the Judiciary Committee which considers all legislation pertaining to judiciary and to civil and criminal judicial reform. Specifically, the committee reviews issues such as civil liberties, constitutional amendments, immigration, and naturalization, and protection of trade and commerce against unlawful restraints and monopolies. The Committee also has jurisdiction over the U.S. Department of Justice as well as federal aid to local law enforcement.

Congresswoman Linda Sánchez also serves on the Committee on Government Reform which has oversight over all federal government activities and serves as the watchdog to prevent waste, fraud, and abuse of taxpayer dollars. Additionally, she serves on the Small Business Committee.

Linda Sánchez is the sixth of seven children born to immigrant parents from Mexico. Born in the City of Orange, she attended public schools before graduating from the University of California, Berkeley, where she earned a Bachelor of Arts in Spanish Literature with an emphasis in Bilingual Education. After working her way through undergraduate school as a bilingual aid and ESL instructor, she attended law school at U.C.L.A., graduating and passing the bar exam in 1995.

During her legal studies at U.C.L.A., Linda interned with the Honorable Judge Terry Hatter, Jr., Chief Justice of the Central District Court. She also spent a summer working for the National Organization for Women Legal Defense and Education Fund (NOW LDEF) in New York City.

After law school, she practiced law in the areas of appellate law, civil rights, and employment law. Committed to political activism, she worked extensively on Loretta Sánchez's 1996 and 1998 campaigns. Since then, Linda has lectured across the country for the National Association of Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) on how to run an effective grassroots political campaign.

After the 1998 election, Sánchez went to work for the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 441 and the National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA) as a compliance officer on public works and prevailing wage issues. A proud member of IBEW Local 441, Congresswoman Sánchez has been an active member since 1998. Prior to coming to Congress, Sánchez served as the Executive Secretary-Treasurer for the Orange County Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO.

Congresswoman Linda Sánchez lives in the City of Lakewood with her two dogs Baloo and Pip.