

# EQUALITY CALIFORNIA



November 15, 2018

Members and Members-Elect of the California Delegation  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Members and Members-Elect,

Congratulations to you and to the voters across our state and nation who elected a pro-equality majority to the House of Representatives. We look forward to working with each of you in the 116th Congress to advance LGBTQ civil rights and social justice and to deliver on the promises of affordable healthcare, an economy that works for all and an end to corruption in Washington.

In order to achieve the results that LGBTQ Californians, our allies and all Americans deserve, we strongly believe that the House must elect a Speaker with vision, experience and a deep commitment to both our California values and our shared values as Americans. That leader is Nancy Pelosi.

Not only did Leader Pelosi make history as the nation's first woman and first Californian to serve as Speaker of the House — she made history as one of the nation's most effective Speakers, as well. From the passage of the Affordable Care Act to equal pay for equal work, the enactment of comprehensive hate crimes legislation to the repeal of 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell,' Nancy Pelosi has helped to improve the lives of countless Americans and has proven her unmatched prowess as a legislator.

She has also proven herself to be a dedicated ally to the LGBTQ community — and the communities to which LGBTQ people belong — since her very first day in office, when she bravely spoke about the need to combat the AIDS crisis in a speech on the House floor.

Now more than ever, the LGBTQ community and our allies need a proven champion who is ready to lead on day one of the 116th Congress. There is no one better suited to stand up to the Trump-Pence Administration's anti-LGBTQ, anti-immigrant and anti-woman agenda, while also fighting for commonsense progress on critical issues facing Californians — such as healthcare, gun violence and wildfire relief — than Nancy Pelosi. That is why we are proud to support her campaign for Speaker and respectfully urge you to do the same.

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We look forward to working with you in the 116th Congress. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me or to Equality California's National Policy Director Valerie Ploumpis at [valerie@eqca.org](mailto:valerie@eqca.org) if we can assist you or your staff in any way.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rick Zbur". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rick Zbur  
Executive Director