

TED LIEU

Seeking Position of: Attorney General

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1. If elected, what are your top priorities during your term? What would you like to accomplish and how would you go about doing so? Please be specific.

I believe California's Attorney General is one of the most important positions to advance progressive values. From healthcare to marriage equality, or the environment to public safety, the Attorney General has an enormous ability to help Californians who don't have a voice. My top priority will be to ensure the Attorney General is an advocate who will uphold, advance and enforce the law to make our state a safer, healthier and more stable place to live. Our campaign is about standing up to powerful interests, because I truly believe that is the top priority for California's Attorney General. I want to be a champion for working families and those who haven't been provided the opportunities my family and I have been afforded.

2. How have you in the past and how will you in the future use your position to expand the presence and influence of Asian Pacific Americans in public policy and politics?

I publically took on Governor Schwarzenegger and his poor record in appointments of minority to political and judicial positions. I wrote Op-Eds, held press conferences and spoke out against him. As a result of these efforts along with other leaders, the Governor nearly doubled the number of female and minority appointments. If elected Attorney General, I will continue to speak out against injustice against any minority group. As Chair of the API Legislative Caucus for two years, I helped expand the number of API elected officials in the state legislature to its historic high of 11 API members.

3. What have you done that demonstrates your commitment to and effectiveness in promoting Asian Pacific American interests in the following areas (and if you have not contributed in these areas, please discuss any area(s) in which you have made a contribution):

Education

I have drafted important legislation fighting against cyber-bullying and I have been a leader in the State Legislature on school safety authoring bills to improve school safety plans.

Health Care

I went after the insurance companies on their horrible policies to provide financial incentives to employees that rescind customers' insurance policies. I also worked with Assemblymember Ma to increase awareness on hepatitis b.

Civil Rights

As the former chair of the Asian Pacific Islander Caucus, I joined together with chairs of the Latino and Black Caucuses and took on some of the top foundations and helped expose inadequate funding they gave to minority non-profits. As a result we were able to reach an agreement in which they would increase funding to minority non-profits by \$30 million

Business

I took on the powerful financial industry and successfully passed mortgage and foreclosure reform. Minority communities have been especially hard hit by this crisis. For example, Asian American small business owners often use their house as collateral to get a loan for their small business. When they lose the house, they also lose their business. I am proud to have received the Summa Cum Laude award from the California Small Business Association for my championing of job creation issues.