Judy Chu Sweeps California Democratic Party Endorsement

Hundreds of Community Grassroots Supporters Turn Out to Support Candidate

ROSEMEAD – State Board of Equalization Vice Chair Judy Chu, candidate for the 32nd Congressional District seat vacated by Labor Secretary Hilda Solis, won the endorsement of the California Democratic Party on a unanimous vote Saturday, riding a tidal wave of local, grassroots support on her way to the May 19 primary.

Dr. Chu's victory came during a local caucus meeting of 32nd District Democrats held Saturday at the Garvey Intermediate School. Dr. Chu came away with an unprecedented 100 percent of votes tallied, earning the support of all 287 caucus members and smashing the 60 percent threshold needed to win the endorsement. No other Democratic candidate received a single vote during the caucus.

Dr. Chu’s supporters crowded the school's cafeteria for a raucous rally and luncheon prior to the caucus vote. The Chu campaign's supporters were so numerous that some waited more than an hour and a half to vote and the lines to vote wrapped around the school auditorium onto Garvey Avenue.

“I feel so honored by the incredible support we had today,” said Chu after the votes were tallied. “It shows that the Democrats of this District, which I have represented at the local and state level for the past 23 years and which I call my home, have come to trust me as one of their own and as a champion of the issues that are important to them. And I pledge to them that, if elected to Congress, I will continue to fight for their interests with all my heart in Washington.”

The caucus' results will become official within five days, making Dr. Chu the only candidate officially endorsed by the state Democratic Party on the ballot in the May 19 special election.

Judy Chu was first elected to the State Board of Equalization, the country's only elected tax board, in 2006 after serving three terms in the California Assembly representing the 49th District, which includes large portions of the 32nd Congressional District. She has strong fiscal experience, having served as the chair of the powerful Appropriations Committee in the Assembly and as chair of the state's top revenue-generating agency, collecting $53 billion a year in taxes and fees. She also authored a landmark tax amnesty bill which was estimated to bring in $300 million but actually brought in $4.8 billion for the state budget without raising taxes.

The 32nd Congressional District includes the cities of Azusa, Baldwin Park, Covina, Duarte, El Monte, Monterey Park, Rosemead, South El Monte, West Covina, unincorporated East Los Angeles and portions of Los Angeles.