



For Immediate Release  
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**\*\*\*PRESS RELEASE\*\*\***

## **L.A. Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa Officially Endorses Judy Chu for Congress**

*Mayor Joined by Scores of San Gabriel Valley Elected Officials at Special Press Event*

EL SERENO – The Mayor of Los Angeles, Antonio Villaraigosa, was joined by his counterparts from West Covina, South El Monte, Duarte and scores of other San Gabriel Valley elected officials on Wednesday as he officially announced his endorsement of Judy Chu in the race for the 32<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District seat recently vacated by Labor Secretary Hilda Solis.

“When you read the list of endorsements that Judy Chu has, it spans virtually the entire district: school board, city council, mayors and mayors pro tem, black, white, Latino, Asian, she has a breadth of support among elected officials and community leaders that are the who’s who of the San Gabriel Valley,” Mayor Villaraigosa told a crowd of reporters, elected officials and supporters who gathered at the El Sereno Senior Center for the announcement.

“Judy represents the coalition builders of the future,” Mayor Villaraigosa continued. “We just elected a community organizer to the White House, a man committed to coalition building. Judy Chu has been doing that since she was in college. She has been working across racial lines, she has been building coalitions, she has been the bridge between communities. And that is what we need in Congress right now.”

The event, which included appearances by West Covina Mayor Roger Hernandez, South El Monte Mayor Blanca Figueroa, Duarte Mayor John Fasana, Baldwin Park Mayor Pro Tem Monica Garcia and Duarte Mayor Pro Tem Margaret Finlay, included just a fraction of the more than 75 elected officials from the San Gabriel Valley who have already endorsed Judy Chu for Congress.

“I am so fortunate to have the endorsements and support of these city council members and mayors of the congressional district and of this most distinguished official, Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa!” Judy Chu told the crowd, adding that the mayor’s endorsement capped a week of momentum-building that saw her secure the unanimous endorsement of the California Democratic Party and jump to a \$200,000 fundraising lead over her nearest competitor in the 32<sup>nd</sup> District race, state Sen. Gil Cedillo. “They know that I will fight to stop the economic pain people are experiencing in this district and throughout the nation, and I pledge to use my fiscal expertise to be a problem solver in Washington and make sure we get back to a state of economic health in this country.”

Judy Chu currently serves as vice chair of the state Board of Equalization, which collects more than \$53 billion in revenue for the state of California. Prior to that she served three terms in the state Assembly, where she headed the powerful Appropriations Committee.