

**Interview with State Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson**  
**October 19, 2015**

**Describe your activities or involvement in mentoring women to participate in the political process:**

Senator Jackson is often speaking at state-wide organizations and uses the opportunities to encourage women to be more involved in political issues. She was the chair of a state committee to establish the women's caucus. She was involved in the creation of the SB Women's Political Committee and has served as its president.

**What efforts have you made toward addressing gender equity and other inequities or imbalances with reference to women and minorities?**

One only needs to look at her career. She has been involved in nearly all issues (we can't think of anything she hasn't been involved in) relating to women in her lengthy political career. She has worked on legislation involving violence against women, "Yes Means Yes," equal pay, served as chair of the women's caucus for 8 of 14 years, and worked with legislation to create a stronger California including economic opportunities, child care, and eradicating poverty.

**How many people serve on your staff, and how many are women, and what are their roles? In what ways is diversity reflected in your staff?**

Most of her staff are women. There are about 2:1 women versus men on the staff. Ethnic/racial diversity is also present on the staff.

**What else would you like to share with the SBWPC?**

She has concerns that SBWPC is becoming less relevant with the voting community. Some candidates don't seek an endorsement. She indicates that she strongly believes that we should support women who are running if they have the credentials we believe necessary for the job. She thinks we should be asking candidates what their plans are if they are elected rather than what they have done in the past. She asks the question, "Why does SBWPC exist?" She'd like to see a Facebook page and a more informative website.