



PROGRESSIVE CAUCUS

of the CALIFORNIA DEMOCRATIC PARTY

January 13, 2010

Congresswoman Lynn Woolsey
2263 Rayburn Building
Washington, DC 20515

Congresswoman Lynn Woolsey
1050 Northgate Drive, Suite 354
San Rafael, CA. 94903

Congresswoman Lynn Woolsey
1101 College Avenue, Suite 200
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

Dear Congresswoman Woolsey,

We, the officers of the Progressive Caucus of the California Democratic Party, are your constituents, both in your district, and throughout the rest of California. We are your friends, your ardent supporters through your long and distinguished career and consider ourselves your progressive colleagues in the California Democratic Party. We have worked for the same agenda inside the Democratic Party as you for pushed for in Congress. We turned out and worked on the ground to defeat your primary opponent several years ago, motivated by a deep admiration for the leadership you have shown on many issues dear to Progressives, and we have been reliable campaign contributors along the way.

We write to express our strong disappointment in your decision to support the re-election campaign of Jane Harman, an undistinguished, scandal-ridden conservative, over Marcy Winograd, a true and longstanding progressive. We understand that Harman has recently moved slightly left in an attempt to keep her seat. After the election, however, we expect her to revert to her blue-dog ways and oppose much of your (and our) legislative agenda. Marcy, on the other hand, is a certain vote for the progressive legislation you and we have fought for: an end to two wars, Medicare for all, reform of the banking system, a civil liberties renaissance, etc. To us, it should be an easy moral as well as political choice: replace a blue-dog with another member of the Congressional Progressive Caucus.

While we do not relish having to write to you over this matter, we are more astonished to find ourselves in the position of having to express how damaging we feel your appearance at this event would be to the credibility and reputation of the Congressional Progressive Caucus, the health of the progressive movement in the Democratic Party (which could be made either precarious or robust, depending on the actions of those representatives we deem most important, such as yourself), and all who would call themselves Progressive Democrats. Numerous articles have been written on the subject of the wandering soul of our Party as of late, and as progressives in the largest state party in the nation, we would hope you would recognize the context in which your actions will certainly be judged.

We know that you are committed to this fundraiser. If you won't withdraw from that event, we ask that you appear at a similar event for Marcy Winograd in your district.

Sincerely, and hopefully,

Karen Bernal, Chair, AD 5, CD 5
Mal Burnstein, NoCal Vice-Chair, AD 14, CD 9
Ahjamu Makalani, SoCal Vice-Chair, AD 61, CD 43
Dotty LeMieux, Secretary, AD 6, CD 6
Ralph Miller, Treasurer, AD 6, CD 6
Jeffrey Killeen, Parliamentarian, AD 27, CD 14
Mayme Hubert, Officer-at-Large, AD 6, CD 6
Dr. Bill Honigman, Officer-at-Large, AD 73, CD 48
J Brian Washman, Officer-at-Large, AD 4, CD 4

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