

# Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus



The Women of the Louisiana Legislature  
2012-2016 Term  
*(updated 03-05-2014)*

# Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus



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## History

In 1986, the women of the legislature formed an organized group to address issues concerning women. The five women of the Louisiana Legislature at that time formed the Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus. The founding members were then:

1. Rep. Mary Landrieu (now the United States Senator of Louisiana)
2. Rep. Kathleen Babineaux Blanco (former Governor of Louisiana)
3. Rep. Irma Muse Dixon
4. Rep. Diana Bajoie (later became a state senator and President Pro Tempore of the Louisiana Senate)
5. Rep. Naomi White Warren



## History—First Female State Senator & Representative

### **1936 --Senator Doris Lindsey Holland**

- Selected by the La. Democratic Executive Committee
- 21st Senatorial District
- Upon husband's death was selected

### **1940--Representative Doris Lindsey Holland**

- Elected to the House
- Because of small district and less travel
- St. Helena Parish

### **1940-- Representative Beatrice Hawthorne Moore**

- Elected to the House
- Caddo Parish

# Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus



## Who We Are:

To date, there are 18 members of the Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus with 14 being state representatives and four (4) being state senators. The Women's Caucus is a cross-section of dynamic women of multi-tiered interests from across the state who are bound together by their commitment to serve the citizens of Louisiana through the legislative process.

## Mission:

Our mission is to: (1) prepare the next generation of women leaders and (2) serve as the premiere voice and leading monitor of issues, legislation and policies, which impact women.

# Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus



## Women's Caucus Officers 2013-2014



Rep. Karen Gaudet St. Germain

Chair

Rep. Karen Gaudet St. Germain  
Pierre Part, District 60



Senate Vice Chair  
Sen. Yvonne Dorsey  
Baton Rouge, District 14



Rep. Regina Barrow

House Vice Chair

Rep. Regina Ashford Barrow  
Baton Rouge, District 29



Sen. Karen Carter Peterson

Immediate Past Chair  
Sen. Karen Carter Peterson  
New Orleans, District 5



Rep. Katrina Jackson

Rep. Katrina Jackson  
*Secretary*  
Monroe, District 16



Rep. Ledricka Thierry

Treasurer  
Rep. Ledricka Thierry  
Opelousas, District 40



Rep. Nancy Landry

Parliamentarian  
Rep. Nancy Landry  
Lafayette, District 31



Rep. Barbara Norton

Member at Large  
Rep. Barbara Norton  
Shreveport, District 3

# Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus



## Women's Caucus Members



Sen. Sharon Weston Broome  
President Pro Tempore  
Baton Rouge, District 15



Sen. Sherri Smith Buffington  
Keithville, District 38



Rep. Simone Champagne  
Jeanerette, District 49



Rep. Dorothy Sue Hill  
Dry Creek, District 32



Rep. Valerie Hodges  
Denham Springs, District 64



Rep. Helena Moreno  
New Orleans, District 93

# Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus



## Women's Caucus Members (Continued)



Rep. Patricia Haynes Smith  
Baton Rouge, District 67



Rep. Julie Stokes  
Kenner, District 79



Rep. Lenar Whitney  
Houma, District 53



Rep. Ebony Woodruff  
Harvey, District 87

# Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus



## Term-Limited Members 2012-2016



Sen. Sharon Weston Broome  
President Pro Tempore  
Baton Rouge, District 15



Sen. Sherri Smith Buffington  
Keithville, District 38



House Vice Chair  
Rep. Regina Ashford Barrow  
Baton Rouge, District 29



Chair  
Rep. Karen Gaudet St. Germain  
Pierre Part, District 60



## Term Limit Data within the Women's Caucus

Democrats: 3
Republicans: 1
African Americans: 2
Caucasians: 2
Women in the Legislature Term Limited: 4 out of 144 (House-2 and Senate-2)



## **Initiatives through the Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus Foundation:**

- Educational Advancement Opportunity (EAO) Scholarship
- Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus Foundation Scholarship
- Ready to Run™ Louisiana (*new initiative in development*)
- Women's Caucus Foundation Leadership Retreat
- Women of Excellence Awards & Scholarships Gala

## **LLWC Foundation Website:**

[www.llwcf.org](http://www.llwcf.org)



## Top Issues of the Women's Caucus

- Healthcare
- Education
- Economic Development
- Childcare
- Domestic Violence
- Small Business
- Insurance



# Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus



## Demographic Profile of Current Women's Caucus

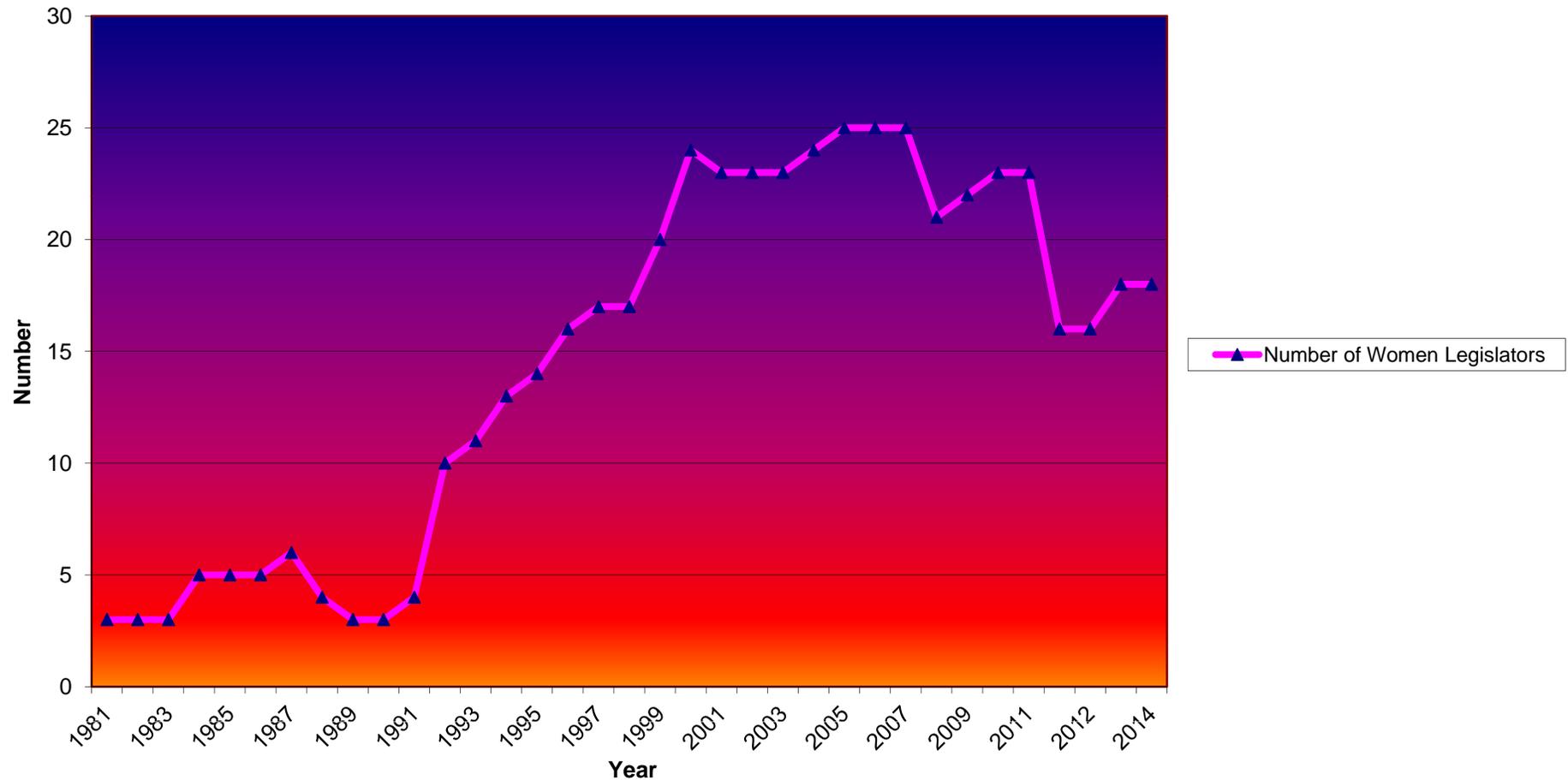
Democrats: 12	67%
Republicans: 6	33%
Independents: 0	0%
African Americans: 9	50%
Caucasians: 8	44%
Hispanics: 1	1%
Percentage of Women in the Legislature: 18 out of 144	12.5%
Percentage in House: 14 out of 105	13%
Percentage in Senate: 4 out of 39	10%

# Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus



## Women Serving in the Louisiana Legislature 1981 to Present

Number of Women Legislators





## Women in Elective Office – Historical Summary

US Congress		
Mary L. Landrieu	US Senator	1997-present
Elaine S. Edwards <i>**Appointed by governor (husband) to fill a vacancy.</i>	US Senator	1972
Rose McConnell Long <i>**Long was appointed and then elected to fill a vacancy caused by the death of her husband.</i>	US Senator	1936-1937

Source: Center for American Women in Politics (Rutgers University)



## Women in Elective Office – Historical Summary

US Congress		
Corinne “Lindy” Claiborne Boggs <i>**Boggs won a special election to replace her husband and was then re-elected.</i>	US Representative	1973-1991
Catherine S. Long <i>**Long won a special election to fill a vacancy.</i>	US Representative	1985-1987

Source: Center for American Women in Politics (Rutgers University)



## Women in Elective Office – Historical Summary

Statewide Elective Offices		
Kathleen Blanco	Governor	2004-2008
Suzanne Haik Terrell	Commissioner of Elections	2000-2004
Kathleen Blanco	Lieutenant Governor	1996-2004
Melinda Schwegmann	Lieutenant Governor	1992-1995

Source: Center for American Women in Politics (Rutgers University)



## Women in Elective Office – Historical Summary

Statewide Elective Offices		
Mary L. Landrieu <i>**Simultaneously won a special election to complete an unexpired term and a regular election.</i>	State Treasurer	1987-1995
Mary Evelyn Parker <i>**Retired in January 1987.</i>	State Treasurer	1968-1987

Source: Center for American Women in Politics (Rutgers University)



## Women in Elective Office – Historical Summary

Statewide Elective Offices		
Ellen Bryan Moore	Register of State Lands	1952-1955; 1960-1975
Lucille May Grace <i>**Was initially appointed to fill a vacancy caused by the death of her husband. Mrs. Grace died while serving in office in 1957.</i>	Register of State Lands	1931-1951; 1956-1957
Alice Lee Grosjean <i>**Appointed to fill a vacancy</i>	Secretary of State	1930

Source: Center for American Women in Politics (Rutgers University)

# Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus



## Contact Us Regarding:

- Constituent Assistance
- Legislation
- Local/State Government Agency Issues
- The Women's Caucus Speaker's Bureau
- State Capitol Tours

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