



NETWORK OF WOMEN PARLIAMENTARIANS
OF THE AMERICAS

PANEL ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING
LOS ANGELES (CALIFORNIA)
JUNE 22, 2007

PROGRAM

- 1:30 p.m. **Registration**
- 2 p.m. **Welcoming Remarks**
New York State Assemblyman Felix Ortiz, Vice-President, Parliamentary Confederation of the Americas (COPA), and meeting host
Mexican Senator Carlos Jiménez Macías, President, COPA
- 2:15 p.m. **Definition of “Human Trafficking” and Introduction of the Speakers**
Rio de Janeiro State Deputy Aparecida Gama, President, Network of Women Parliamentarians of the Americas
- 2:30 p.m. **Round Table**
Moderator: Dep. Aparecida Gama
1. ***Human Trafficking in Texas: A Legislative Response to New Challenges in Prosecution and Providing Outreach Provisions***
Texas State Senator Leticia Van de Putte
 2. ***Importance of Parliamentarians in the Struggle Against Human Trafficking – Ensuring that Trafficking Survivors Have Access to Services to Protect their Health and Safety and Implementation and Responsibilities of the “California Alliance to Combat Trafficking and Slavery” Task Force (CA ACTS)***
California State Senator Sheila Kuehl
 3. ***Organization of Resources and Services to Assist Victims of Human Trafficking and Role of Non-Governmental Organizations in the Passage of Anti-Trafficking Legislation in California***
Ms. Kay Buck, Executive Director
Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking
 4. ***Immigration and Human Trafficking: Contribution of the Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles to the Struggle Against Human Trafficking and Role of Non-Governmental Organizations Working with the CA ACTS Task Force***
Ms. Angelica Salas, Executive Director
Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles
 5. ***Legal Reforms to Address Human Trafficking in the Border State of Chihuahua***
Ms. Patricia Lucila González Rodríguez
Attorney General, State of Chihuahua (Mexico)
- 4:00 p.m. Participants’ questions and comments
- 4:30 p.m. Conclusion (5 minutes per speaker)
- 4:55 p.m. Closing Remarks

BIOGRAPHIES

Senator Leticia Van de Putte, a pharmacist for more than 26 years, has been elected to four terms in the Texas Senate after serving five terms as a state representative (1990-1999). In 2006 Senator Van de Putte became the first Texan and Hispanic woman ever to take office as President of the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL). She is also recognized by multiple civic organizations and community groups as one of the most effective, hardworking, sincere, and influential legislators in Texas. Her strong advocacy for children, veterans, improved access to health care, quality education, and economic development issues has led her to author and sponsor bills to assist families in securing opportunities. Senator Van de Putte has been one of the key authors of bills related to the trafficking of persons in Texas.

Senator Sheila Kuehl was elected to the California State Senate in 2000 and again in 2004 after serving for six years in the State Assembly. Senator Kuehl serves as a member of the Legislative Women's Caucus and the California Commission on the Status of Women. Prior to her eleven years in the State Legislature, Senator Kuehl co-founded and was Managing Attorney of the California Women's Law Center. As a law professor Senator Kuehl specialized in the area of Gender and Law. She has been a leader in the state's efforts to combat human trafficking. In this respect she has authored legislation to: provide survivors of human trafficking with critical social and medical services while they await federal certification; establish the California Alliance to Combat Trafficking and Slavery Task Force; and require the inclusion of human trafficking in law-enforcement training curricula.

Ms. Kay Buck has over eighteen years' experience in the human rights field in local, state, national, and international organizations. As Executive Director of the Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking (CAST) Ms. Buck leads an organization devoted to serving survivors of human trafficking and slavery. Prior to her experience with CAST Ms. Buck spent over five years in Asia working with non-governmental organizations on the issue of human trafficking, thus acquiring first-hand experience in working with victims in source countries. During her career working on human rights issues Ms. Buck has demonstrated her personal and professional mission to empower women to be advocates at the community, state, national, and global levels.

Ms. Angelica Salas is the director of the Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles (CHIRLA) and is widely regarded as one of the most gifted activists/organizers in the United States today. Since becoming CHIRLA's director in 1999, Ms. Salas has spearheaded several ambitious campaigns. She helped win in-state tuition for undocumented immigrant students and established day-labourer job centers that have served as a model for the rest of the nation. Ms. Salas is a graduate of Occidental College, where she studied history and sociology with an emphasis on Latin America and race Relations in the United States.

Attorney General Patricia Lucila Gonzalez Rodríguez is from Bocyna, Chihuahua, Mexico. She received her Law Degree and has a Master in Juridical Science from the Autonomous University of Chihuahua. She also received a Masters Degree in Administration of Justice from the same academic institution. She has served in a variety of judicial posts during her career, including: Chief of the Investigations Department; Secretary of Agreements of the Sixth Penal District of the State Justice Tribunal; Officer in the First Judicial District of Morelos; and Judge of the Third Penal District of Morelos. She is now the Attorney General of Justice of the State of Chihuahua.