FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: November 20, 2017 CONTACT: Katie Merrill (510) 508-0572

## Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren Endorses Eleni Kounalakis for Lieutenant Governor

Lofgren joins a growing roster of prominent Californians supporting Kounalakis' bid for Lt. Governor

San Francisco – Today, U.S. Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren formally endorsed Eleni Kounalakis for Lieutenant Governor. In her statement she praised Eleni's commitment to affordable education, healthcare access and economic prosperity for all Californians.

"I'm proud to support Eleni Kounalakis for Lt. Governor," said Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren. "She will work so that all California families have the opportunity to succeed through good jobs, affordable housing, college and vocational training, and access to quality and affordable health care. She will be a powerful advocate to protect DREAMers and immigrant rights. Her values match the California values of fairness and inclusion. I hope you will join me in supporting Eleni Kounalakis for Lt. Governor."

"I'm so proud to have Congresswoman Lofgren's support behind this campaign for a better, stronger California," said Kounalakis. "She is dedicated to fighting for DREAMers, human rights, affordable education and our environment. As Lt. Governor, I look forward to working alongside leaders like Zoe on the issues affecting California."

Kounalakis comes armed with a growing list of endorsements from prominent Democratic elected officials and organizations, like U.S. Senator Kamala Harris, EMILY's List, San Francisco Mayor Ed Lee, Sacramento Mayor Darrell Steinberg, Oakland Mayor Libby Schaaf, Stockton Mayor Michael Tubbs, Representatives Anna Eshoo, Doris Matsui, Jimmy Panetta, and Mike Thompson, former State Senator Mark Leno, Sacramento Assemblymember Kevin McCarty, CA Women's List, and the Fresno, Marin, and Ventura County Young Democrats.

Kounalakis is a business woman and diplomat. She was appointed by President Barack Obama as Ambassador to Hungary in 2010. She is a life-long Democrat and five-time delegate to the Democratic National Convention and worked as an advocate for early childhood education as a member of California's First 5 Commission and the Blue Ribbon Commission on Autism.

She was appointed by Gov. Jerry Brown to lead the California International Trade and Investment Advisory Council and served as a member of the San Francisco Port Commission. Prior to serving our country in the diplomatic corps, she was president of AKT Development Corporation in Sacramento, where she grew up. She is a graduate of the UC Berkeley Haas School of Business and Dartmouth College. She and her husband, Markos, live in San Francisco where they are raising their two teenage sons.

For more information on Eleni Kounalakis for Lt. Governor, please visit <u>www.EleniForCA.com</u>.

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Paid for by Eleni Kounalakis for Lieutenant Governor 2018.

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