

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 17, 2018 CONTACT: Orrin Evans (818) 359-5536

## RELEASE: Chair of the California Democratic Congressional Delegation Zoe Lofgren (CA-19) Endorses Gil Cisneros (CA-39)

**Fullerton, Calif.** – Today, Congresswoman and Chair of the California Democratic Congressional Delegation Zoe Lofgren (CA-19) endorsed Fmr. Lieutenant Commander Gil Cisneros, who is running for Congress in California's 39th Congressional District. Lofgren, who represents California's 19th Congressional District, highlighted Cisneros' commitment to public service.

"The son of a cafeteria worker and a Vietnam veteran, former Lieutenant Commander Gil Cisneros knows the challenges people are facing throughout California's 39th District," said Lofgren. "For the past eight years, through the work of their foundation, Gil and his wife Jacki have been on the front lines working tirelessly to help give educational opportunities to so many young people. Now, Gil wants to continue this work in Washington. That is why I am proud to endorse him in his campaign for Congress. I know that Gil will fight to provide access and opportunities to DREAMers and underserved communities, and will work to lower prescription costs and stand up to the pharmaceutical companies."

Congresswoman Lofgren Zoe currently serves as the elected Chair of the California Democratic Congressional Delegation, the most diverse delegation in the House. She also currently serves on the House Judiciary Committee, the House Science Committee, the Space and Technology Committee, and the Committee on House Administration.

Lofgren's endorsement adds to a <u>truly impressive coalition</u> of support including SEIU California, United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW), UniteHere! Local 11, Southwest Regional Council of Carpenters, United Steel Workers, the Orange County Labor Fed, the LA County Labor Fed, the California Labor Fed, IBEW Local 11, LiUNA Local 562, fifteen Democratic members of Congress, **more in-district local elected officials than any other Democratic candidate running**, women's rights champion Dolores Huerta, the Giffords Campaign to End Gun Violence, the Congressional Hispanic Caucus's BOLD PAC, End Citizens United, and the national Veterans advocacy organization VoteVets.

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Gil Cisneros is a former U.S. Naval Officer and was awarded the Navy Commendation Medal, Navy Achievement Medal (2), the National Defense Medal, and the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal for his exemplary service to his country. Gil is Advocate and co-founder of The Gilbert & Jacki Cisneros Foundation, an organization committed to improving the level of Hispanic education in the country. Gilbert's dedication toward philanthropy began when he purchased a winning California Mega Millions lottery ticket in 2010. Gil and Jacki partnered with the Hispanic Scholarship Fund and the city of Pico Rivera, California to create Generation First Degree Pico Rivera, with the goal of putting a college degree in every Hispanic household in the city. Gil's commitment to education, led him to be appointed to former First Lady Michelle Obama's <u>Reach Higher Initiative's</u> advisory board, on which he still serves, and President Obama's Advisory Committee on the Arts for the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

California's 39th Congressional District, split between Los Angeles, Orange, and San Bernardino Counties, will be one of the most competitive districts in California. Hillary Clinton won the district by a whopping nine points, the DCCC labeled it a first-round target on its battlefield map and recently, the Cook Political Report changed the district's status from Lean R to Lean D.

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