

2009 Roast and Toast - Harris County Tejano Democrats



State Representative Jessica Farrar

Jessica Farrar is currently in her 8th term as State Representative of District 148. She was first elected to the Texas House of Representatives in 1994 at the age of 27, and she is the longest serving Hispanic from Harris County in the Texas House of Representatives.

Rep. Farrar currently serves as the Vice-Chair of the House Committee on Land and Resource Management as well as on the House Committee on Environmental Regulation. Past assignments have included the House Committees on State Affairs, Juvenile Justice and Family Issues, Corrections, County Affairs, Agriculture and Livestock, and Appropriations.

In addition, Rep. Farrar serves as Chair of the House Democratic Caucus, she is the founder and Vice-Chair of the Women's Health Caucus, and she is also the founder and Secretary of the House Environmental Caucus. She previously served as Vice-Chair of the House Democratic Caucus, Secretary of the Mexican American Legislative Caucus (MALC), and Vice-Chair of the Legislative Study Group (LSG).

Rep. Farrar founded a non-profit mentorship and educational program for Latina college students known as Latinas on the Rise in 1998, and she currently serves on the board of the organization. She also co-founded the Texas

Women's Health Foundation in 2007, a non-partisan non-profit aimed at de-politicizing women's health issues, and she serves as an ex-officio member of its board. In addition to these positions, Rep. Farrar serves on the Galveston-Houston Association for Smog Prevention Board of Directors, the Avenue CDC Board of Directors, the Rice Design Alliance Board of Directors, the National Advisory Committee of the National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health, the Women Action for New Direction Education Fund's Board of Directors, and the Postpartum Support International's President's Advisory Council.

Rep. Farrar works extensively on issues related to women's health, children's healthcare, education, the environment, taxes, homeowner rights, homeland and border security, domestic violence, sexual assault, reproductive rights, cantinas, insurance coverage, transportation, discrimination, and criminal and juvenile justice.

Rep. Farrar grew up in Houston and received a Bachelor of Architecture from the University of Houston. She is currently a law student at the University of Texas School of Law. She is married to Lieutenant Colonel Select Marco Sanchez, who is a practicing attorney, and the two live in Houston's Lindale Park neighborhood with their dog, Vecina.