

About

Betty T. Yee

Candidate for Governor



Betty Yee is the former California State Controller. She was elected in November 2014, following two terms of service on the California Board of Equalization, the nation's only elected tax commission. Re-elected in 2018 for a second term as Controller earning the highest number of votes of any candidate nationwide that year --- over 8 million votes --- Betty was the 10th woman elected to statewide office in California's history.

As Chief Fiscal Officer of the world's then-fifth largest economy, Betty, among other responsibilities, served as a member of the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) and the California State Teachers' Retirement System (CalSTRS) boards, whose combined portfolio reached \$800 billion. She led the work at both pension funds that culminated in the funds' net zero pledges.

Betty served on dozens of boards, commissions, and financing authorities affecting policies ranging from land management, affordable housing, and alternative transportation to crime victim compensation and health and educational facilities.

As Chair of the State Lands Commission, she provided stewardship of public-trust lands, waterways, and marine resources through economic development, protection, preservation, and restoration consistent with the state's environmental needs. In this capacity, she spearheaded, among other things, the shuttering of the last state oil platform on the Santa Barbara channel. As a member of several housing financing entities, Betty sponsored legislation to streamline the state's housing finance programs and called for stricter accountability over state funds directed towards addressing homelessness. Over her eight years as Controller, she and her audit team uncovered \$7.5 billion in unallowed spending.

With close to four decades of experience in public service specializing in state and local finance and tax policy, Betty earned a BA in sociology from the University of California, Berkeley, and a MPA from Golden Gate University in San Francisco. She currently serves on the Board of Directors of Ceres, a national sustainability organization, and the Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies.

After her service as State Controller, Betty served as a Fellow with the University of Southern California Dornsife Center for the Political Future where she led a discussion and study group on the relationship of good governance and the health of our democracy. Betty is a declared candidate for Governor.