

Katie Porter's Comments Making Waves for Democracy meeting on 7/24/2 Summarized by Jenny Jackson

- San Francisco Chronicle calls her Congress's watchdog and single mom. She loves oversight!
- Everyone on both sides of the aisle wants good governance: To make sure our tax dollars, federal budget and programs are actually helping people.
- Katie will continue to be a watchdog for people's retirement savings, their bottom lines.
- Holding government to account, including our own administration, is really important. Some people think we're not pushing the President far enough, others don't understand what he has already accomplished.
- Katie has a track record of being a reliable messenger about what our government is doing well and what it needs to do better. This is a winning strategy for a tough district.

Katie's themes/big issues:

- Families are struggling
- Families are worried their kids won't be able to live here in So Cal due to costs of housing
- People are concerned that politicians are taking away their ability to make their own decisions about their bodies and their families
- Corporations are raising prices, even as they increase stock buybacks and pay their CEOs millions of dollars in bonuses
- Gun violence
- Standing up to AAPI hate
- Fighting climate change

State of Katie's race:

- New 47th District covers Seal Beach, Huntington Beach, Newport Beach, Laguna Beach, Costa Mesa, and Irvine.
- Irvine is the only city she currently represents, which means she has 70% new voters.
- Equal numbers of Republicans and Democrats in the district. She's picking up a fraction of the Republicans, but that's as much as she'll get.
- Intends to focus on the hundreds of thousands of no party preference, independents, and less frequent voters, including on college campuses.

Katie's message on gas price gouging:

- Gas is an international commodity. There's no doubt that Putin's invasion of Ukraine has destabilized that commodity. We saw price of crude oil go up in wake of invasion.
- We've seen the price of oil come down as President Biden has released oil from the strategic petroleum reserve, as we have increased the supply in other ways, including working with international partners.
- There is a mismatch between the price of oil, which is coming down, and price of gas, which is still going up. That gap is the price gouge. That's what we need to crack down on.
- Cracking down on the price gouging will make sure everyone is getting a fair price at the pump, which reflects what the oil companies are paying.
- Without it, the oil companies are making record buybacks, doubling and tripling their dividends for this year over previous years and over their expectations.
- Katie has a bill that would give the FTC power to crack down on price gouging.
- We also have to increase our energy independence and disentangle our economy from petro dictators like Putin.

Katie's message on climate strategy:

- We'll do what we can in reconciliation. That won't be enough this term, so let's get new folks into Congress for 2023.
- That doesn't mean we can't do things now.
- At the executive level, President Biden is protecting sensitive land, making sure pollution is cleaned up.

- When we gave states federal resources through the infrastructure package, we saw states use them. For example, electric vehicle charging infrastructure and clean school bus programs.
- Don't confuse "not enough action" with "doing nothing." If Republicans take over, we'll go in the wrong direction.

Impact of Jan 6 hearings on voters:

- We've shaken loose some Republican votes but it will be hard to turn them out in a midterm to vote for a Dem.
- More significant impact is to energize the Democratic base, who finally feel they've been getting some answers and some accountability.

Stop bashing Biden!

- We should absolutely encourage the President to keep his campaign promises. But avoid taking pot shots.
- Biden made some promises he has not delivered on, and people should hold him to those promises. That's engaging the President on his agenda, which is valid.
- Biden has done a terrific job trying to stabilize our democracy, rebuild administrative agencies that were torn down under Trump, and reestablish our credibility on a diplomatic front. He's working hard and successfully.
- The President wants more too! He's frustrated that he's not getting it all done.
- It's good and healthy to push in the President and his agenda, which is different than just saying "Biden sucks."
- The path to getting more things done is to go forward stronger, which is why your vote is important.

Katie's thoughts on Supreme Court strategy:

- We need a judicial code of ethics. We should expect the highest standard of ethics from all of our judges, conservative or liberal. People need to know we don't have a judicial code of ethics, and we need one.
 - Court expansion is important to consider, but we need to socialize the idea. Katie supports it because the Court is not taking the cases, not doing a lot of the important work. There are no cases at all (not just from SCOTUS) regarding our consumer protection statutes. The Court has not grown along with the expansion of US business.
 - Growing the Court can result in faster, more accurate interpretation, and better implementation, of consumer protection laws.
- It's important to think about how we'll answer voter questions at the door. If anything comes up when you're canvassing, send an email to Katie's team, and she can help construct answers to take back out there.

Huntington Beach office opening July 30, 10 am. Hear from Katie and down ballot candidates.

From Evelyn Zhai, Field Organizer focusing on AAPI communities:

- Canvassing Saturdays – 10 am in Huntington Beach, 2 pm Seal Beach
- Canvassing Sundays – Costa Mesa and Irvine
- Irvine and Huntington Beach will have weekday canvassing starting in August
- 2/3 of district has never been represented by Katie before, so every voter we talk to is super important
- Republican opponent, Scott Baugh, is a lobbyist and former Chair of the Orange County GOP. He is staunchly anti-abortion, even in cases of rape or incest, and has an A rating from the NRA.