




Women's Legislative Network
Executive Committee Board 2023-2024

Officers

Name, Position, Title, State	Bio
 <p>Melissa Ballard President Representative (R) Utah</p>	<p>Rep. Melissa Garff Ballard has represented District 20 since 2019, focusing on efficient government, prison reform, energy and education. Previously, she managed an award-winning piano studio for more than 23 years. Ballard holds a bachelor's in piano performance and a Master of Music, both from the University of Utah.</p>
 <p>Dafna Michaelson Janet President-Elect Senator (D) Colorado</p>	<p>Sen. Dafna Michaelson Janet has served Coloradans in public office since 2017, and is currently serving District 21. Her career experience includes co-founding the non-profit Journey Institute, and organization to elevate and empower people in underserved communities, and working as its president. Her other accomplishments include being a published author. She has her bachelor's in music and drama from Teshiva University and her master's from the University of Denver.</p>
 <p>DeAnn Vaught Vice President Representative (R) Arkansas</p>	<p>Rep. DeAnn Vaught is serving her fifth term in the Arkansas House. She represents District 87 which includes Little River County and portions of Sevier, Little River, and Howard Counties. For the 94th General Assembly, Rep. Vaught is the House Chair for the House Rules Committee. Rep. Vaught also serves on the House Education Committee and the House Agriculture, Forestry and Economic Development Committee, and the Arkansas Legislative Council. Rep. Vaught graduated from Southern Arkansas University with a bachelor's in agriculture business and is currently a farmer in Horatio. She is a member of the Farm Bureau and Pork Producers. She is a mother of three and resides in Horatio with her husband, Jon.</p>



Stephanie Clayton
Past President
Representative (D)
Kansas

Stephanie Clayton is a member of the Kansas House of Representatives serving District 19. She has held public office since 2013 and has served on a variety of committees including but not limited to Commerce, Labor, and Economic Development; Federal and State Affairs; Taxation; Redistricting; Rules. Her primary focuses are transparency and accountability. Another accomplishment was her leadership in founding the Bipartisan Women's Caucus in Kansas. Clayton earned her bachelor's degree in history from Emporia State University.

At-Large Members



Diamond Staton-Williams
At-Large Member
Representative (D)
North Carolina

Staton-Williams was born and raised in the area of Charlotte, N.C. She serves the 73rd District as a state representative. Professionally, she became passionate about healthcare due to her own mother's health, and trained and became a practicing nurse. She is also a small business owner. In her personal life, she is a mother of three and an active participant in her community.

VACANCY

VACANCY

Regional Members



Marla Brown
Eastern Regional
Member
Representative (R)
Pennsylvania

Relying on more than 30 years of business experience in the private sector, Rep. Marla Brown was selected by the residents of the 9th Legislative District to represent them in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives beginning in 2023. Her focus is on helping to grow the state's economy, improving opportunities for employers and employees across the Commonwealth and expanding educational opportunities while respecting taxpayers. Marla resides in New Castle with her husband, Greg. She has three children, Ashlea, who is married to Taylor Doan; and sons, Zac and Ben.



Maria Horn
Eastern Regional
Member
Representative (D)
Connecticut

Maria Horn is a member of the Connecticut General Assembly, representing nine towns in the state's Northwest Corner in the 64th House District. She is currently in her third term and serves as the chair of the Finance, Revenue, and Bonding Committee. She also serves as a rank-and-file member on the Environment and Energy & Technology Committees. Maria earned her bachelor's degree from Princeton University and Juris Doctor from the University of Chicago Law School, eventually serving as a federal prosecutor for the Southern District of New York before being elected to office. She moved to Connecticut in 2005 with her husband and three children, currently residing in Salisbury.



Tina Mulally
Midwestern Regional
Member
Representative (R)
South Dakota

Tina Mulally is serving as a member of the South Dakota House of Representatives for the 35th district, since 2019. Professionally, she is a small business owner. She has two children with her husband Dan.



Stephanie Kifowit
Midwestern Regional
Member
Representative (D)
Illinois

Stephanie Kifowit proudly served her country in the United States Marine Corps, and served the residents of the Aurora as alderman for over nine years. Now, as full-time state representative of the 84th District, she serves the residents of Aurora, Montgomery, Naperville, and Oswego. Rep. Kifowit has a record of fighting for veterans, seniors, and the most vulnerable in our community. She has her bachelor's in political science and a master's in public administration, both from Northern Illinois University.



Barbara Freiberg
Southern Regional
Member
Representative (R)
Louisiana

Born and raised in Baton Rouge, she earned her bachelor's in education from Louisiana Tech University and her master's in English from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. After graduation, she spent the next 30 years teaching. She then served 10 years as education administrator for the Louisiana Board of Elementary and Secondary Education. In 2015, in an effort to get the school board and the EBR Metro Council to work more closely on education issues, she ran and was elected as the Metro Council Representative for District 12. Since then she has served the 70th District of the Louisiana State House.



Nima Kulkarni
Southern Regional
Member
Representative (D)
Kentucky

Nima Kulkarni is an American immigration attorney and a Democratic member of the Kentucky House of Representatives representing District 40 since January 2019. Kulkarni is the first Indian-American elected as a state representative in Kentucky. She has earned her bachelor's in English literature and master's in entrepreneurship, both from the University of Louisville. Additionally, she earned her Juris Doctor from the University of the District of Columbia David A. Clarke School of Law.



Marsha Judkins
Western Regional
Member
Representative (R)
Utah

Rep. Judkins was elected in 2018 to represent Utah's 61st District in the State House. She has served on committees focusing on Health and Human Services, Revenue and Taxation, and Social Services Appropriations. Professionally, Judkins has worked as a children's librarian, an adjunct instructor for Fortis College from 2010-2015, and an adjunct professor in developmental math from Utah Valley University. She and her husband Randy have seven children together.



Amanda Shelton
Western Regional
Member
Senator (D)
Guam

Senator Amanda L. Shelton is currently serving her third term in the 37th Guam Legislature. In addition to serving as legislative secretary and majority leader, she also serves as the chairwoman of multiple committees. Elected as the youngest female senator on Guam, she has dedicated her career to fighting for our island's working families and the underrepresented and underserved populations. She graduated from the Academy of Our Lady of Guam in 2008. She has earned a master's in public administration and a bachelor's in political science and communication from the University of Guam.