



## Senator Lola Smallwood-Cuevas

*District 28 - Democrat*

**Counties Represented:**  
Portions of Los Angeles  
county (Vernon, and portions  
of the city of Los Angeles)

### About Lola Smallwood-Cuevas:

Lola was raised by a single mother who worked as a home care worker, CNA and then registered nurse, Senator Smallwood-Cuevas has life experience of being from a working family who moved to California in search of better education, good union jobs, and a pathway to self-sufficiency. After graduating from California State University at Hayward, Lola started her career in journalism. Lola's first union membership was with the Newspaper Guild, where she documented the lives and societal interests of working families. Lola moved on to serve as a researcher and political and community organizer with SEIU Local 1877. Senator Smallwood-Cuevas co founded the LA Black Worker Center, where she worked to increase access to quality jobs, reduce employment discrimination, and improve industries that employ Black workers through action and unionization. Coining the term Black worker center, the LABWC went on to be a model for the emerging National Black Worker Center Network. Lola has served as a Project Director at the UCLA Labor Center, where she directs the Center for the Advancement of Racial Equity at Work project. Lola and her work have been recognized nationally by former President Barack Obama, Labor Secretary Tom Perez, and many others. Lola's personal and professional goals have always been centered in making California work for vulnerable workers. Her leadership and professional experience have shaped her understanding of politics, public policy, and how to adapt systems change for the betterment of all Californians. Lola is a wife and mother of two, lives in Los Angeles, and has spent her life's work changing the tangible conditions for working families in South Los Angeles.

## Member Priorities & District Issues

### Member Priorities

- Labor

### Committee Membership

#### Standing Committees

- Budget and Fiscal Review Committee
- Education
- School Climate and Student Safety
- Business and Professions
- Labor Public Employment and Retirement
- Senate Rules Committee

### Subcommittees

- Subcommittee 1 on Education

**Legislative Contact Information** | <https://sd28.senate.ca.gov/>

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