



CONTACT (ASM PETRIE-NORRIS): Lizzie.Cootsona@asm.ca.gov or (916) 319-2074
CONTACT (ASM CERVANTES): Cassandra.Kester@asm.ca.gov or (951) 371-6860

*** MEDIA ADVISORY ***

**Joint Informational Hearing with the Select
Committee on Small Business and
Entrepreneurship and the Committee on Jobs,
Economic Development and the Economy**

*Hearing Will Focus on Unique Challenges Facing Women- and Minority-
Owned Businesses*

SACRAMENTO – On Wednesday, August 18, 2021, Assemblywoman Cottie Petrie-Norris, Chair of the Select Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship (SB&E) and Assemblymember Sabrina Cervantes, Chair of the Committee on Jobs, Economic Development and the Economy (JEDE) will convene a joint informational hearing focused on examining the needs of women- and minority-owned small businesses. Information and recommendations received during the hearing will provide a foundation for committee members to evaluate state programs and legislative proposals in the upcoming Legislative Session.

“We know that the pandemic was devastating for all California business owners, but no one felt the effects of the pandemic more than women- and minority-owned small businesses,” said **Assemblywoman Cottie Petrie-Norris (D-Laguna Beach)**, who chairs the SB&E Select Committee. “I look forward to diving into a conversation with the JEDE Committee on the specific challenges facing these hardest hit small businesses and how the Legislature can support them in recovery.”

“Small businesses face many unique challenges in re-opening and re-positioning within the evolving COVID-19 pandemic,” said **Assemblymember Sabrina Cervantes (D-Corona)**, who chairs the JEDE Committee. “This joint hearing provides an important opportunity for the two committees to hear from a range of stakeholders on emerging issues, take recommendations, and identify areas where state programs and services need to be modified to better serve the needs of women- and minority-owned businesses.”

Wednesday, August 18, 2021

Informational Hearing

2pm - 4:30pm

Assembly Chamber

To view live, go to: <https://www.assembly.ca.gov/todaysevents>

Hearing Agenda [Online](#)

PANELISTS:

Eugene Cornelius, Jr., Senior Director, Center for Regional Economics and California Center,
Milken Institute

Pat Fong Kushida, President & CEO, CalAsian Chamber of Commerce

Nancy Swift, Executive Director, Jefferson Economic Development Institute and Chair of
California Women's Business Center Network

Andy Madeira, Chief Executive Officer, East Bay Asian Local Development Corporation

Carmen Herrera-Mansir, Executive Director, El Pájaro Community Development Corporation
and host to the Regional Women's Business Center

Nicole McDonald, owner of S.T.E.A.M. Academy

Monica Ochoa, owner of I Day Cleaning

###

Assemblywoman Cottie Petrie-Norris represents California's 74th District including Newport Beach, Laguna Beach, Costa Mesa, Laguna Woods and parts of Irvine and Huntington Beach. She is the Chair of the Accountability and Administrative Review Committee and a member of Banking and Finance Committee; Jobs, Economic Development, and the Economy Committee; Revenue & Taxation Committee and Veterans Committee. After working her way through Yale

University, where she double majored in Economics and English, Cottie had a successful 20-year career in finance and technology. She helped to build businesses and led teams at Fortune 500 corporations, small companies and start-ups. Cottie lives in Laguna Beach with her

husband, Colin, their two sons, Dylan and Hayden, and their rescue dog, Flounder. Follow the

Assemblywoman on Twitter <https://twitter.com/AsmCottie> or on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/AssemblywomanCPN>.

Sabrina Cervantes is a mother who proudly represents the 60th District of the California State Assembly, which encompasses the cities of Corona, Eastvale, Jurupa Valley, Norco, a portion of Riverside, and the unincorporated communities of Coronita, El Cerrito, and Home Gardens. Cervantes serves as Chair of the Assembly Committee on Jobs, Economic Development, and the Economy.

For further information, please visit Assemblymember Sabrina Cervantes's [website](#).

Follow Assemblymember Cervantes on social media:

