

JANET REILLY

ABOUT JANET REILLY

Democrat Janet Reilly, who currently serves on the Golden Gate Bridge Board, is a former journalist who has worked as a businesswoman and has an extensive background in the non-profit world. Janet also serves on Mayor Gavin Newsom's Policy Council for Children, Youth and Families, but she considers her experience raising two daughters in San Francisco one of her most important qualifications for Assembly.

Janet is a candidate for Assembly because she thinks our state needs to stop running from the big problems and start solving them.

She doesn't see enough elected officials in Sacramento who are speaking up for us on the issues that matter most. She knows our schools aren't getting better and our commutes are getting worse. It's never been harder to raise a family in the Bay Area and it is almost impossible to find homes or health care the average family can afford.

Janet also clearly understands the nexus between our quality of life and the quality of our government. It's no coincidence that a national bipartisan magazine ranked California government the worst in the country, citing management problems such as the "tower of debt" and lack of investment in infrastructure. Janet is committed to real reform in our state government because she knows how much it matters here at home to Bay Area families.

As a director of the Golden Gate Bridge Board, Janet Reilly knows we can do better when it comes to planning growth and investing in good roads and great transit. In her role as a Bridge Board member, Janet is also fighting to win our fair share of Federal Homeland Security dollars. The Golden Gate Bridge is one of the top terrorist targets in the world and Janet is working with our delegation in Washington to make sure we have the resources we need to protect this magnificent and vital structure.

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She is fighting to save lives by installing a suicide barrier on the Golden Gate Bridge. The Eiffel Tower has a suicide barrier. The Empire State Building has a suicide barrier. The Golden Gate Bridge District must do the same. The science shows that lives can be saved and it's time to act.

As a businesswoman, Janet demonstrated that she could help run an organization for the good of its customers and the entire community. As the Manager of Public Relations for Mervyn's department stores, Janet created Mervyn's Community Closet. The Community Closet traveled throughout the country donating work-appropriate wardrobes to men and women making the transition from welfare to work. Thousands of people in more than one hundred cities have benefited from the Community Closet.

In the non-profit world, Janet has worked to forge the kind of strong coalitions that make an impact by giving back to our community. At Mt. St. Joseph's-St. Elizabeth's Epiphany Center for Families, Janet worked directly with drug-addicted babies to help provide for their care.

As part of her longtime work with Shanti, Janet Reilly helped bring Shanti's volunteer model to the national level. Janet has been instrumental in supporting inner city Catholic education, including Sacred Heart School in the Western Addition. Through their leadership in Catholic Charities, Janet and Clint Reilly created the annual Loaves and Fishes dinner that helps fund 38 community programs in San Francisco and San Mateo Counties. Janet also serves on the Board of the Asian Art Museum to increase cultural opportunities for families in the Bay Area.

Janet Reilly began her career as an anchorwoman-reporter for CBS-affiliate KGWN-TV in Cheyenne, Wyoming. She received a Masters degree in Journalism from Medill at Northwestern University in Chicago.

Janet Reilly lives in San Francisco with her husband Clint and her two girls, Jill, 6, and Ava, 4.