

A close-up, slightly blurred image of the American flag, showing the stars and stripes. The flag is draped over a curved surface, creating a sense of depth and movement. The colors are vibrant, with the red and white stripes and the blue field with white stars.

Paths to Power

Women in Government

Senator Sharon Weston Broome
President Pro Tempore
Louisiana State Senate

Challenges That Women Face

Facts

- Women occupy only 18% of parliamentary seats around the world
- The US currently ranks 68th of 134 nations worldwide with only 16.8% women elected to the House of Representatives and 16.0% women elected to the Senate
- There are only 13 women in the highest positions of State out of 189 governments

Source: International Women's Democracy Center

Challenges Faced by Minority Women

- Of the 74 women serving in Statewide Elective Offices there is only 1 African American Woman.
- Of the 1,741 women state legislators serving nationwide, 235 or 13.5% are African-American Women.
- Of the 1,196 board directorships, 27 were held by Black Women

The Answer

"There never will be complete equality until women themselves help to make laws and elect lawmakers."

Susan B. Anthony



Paths to Power

Leadership 101

“Everything rises and falls on leadership.”

“Leadership is influence.”

Effective Leadership



“At present, our country needs women's idealism and determination, perhaps more in politics than anywhere else.”

Shirley Chisholm

Broome's Journey

- 1988 – Baton Rouge Metro Council
- 1992 - La House of Rep
(Appropriations)
- 1996 - Re-elected to the House
Chair of M,P & CA

Broome's Journey (cont'd)

- 2000 Re-elected to the House
Chair of M, P & CA
- 2004 Re-elected to the House
First Female Elected Speaker
Pro Temp
- 2005 Elected to the State Senate
Vice Chair of Education
Chair of Select Committee
- 2008 Elected President Pro Tempore

Effective Leadership

GOAL

Our desire is to make a positive impact in the lives of those we serve

Broome's Bullets

- Empower others
- Be a good listener
- Stop seeing colleagues as "Ds" and "Rs"
- Build diverse partnerships
- Maintain focus on your purpose and vision

Women in Government: Paths to Power

It is our obligation to create a culture that is suitable for our successors, so that they too can make history.

Senator Sharon Weston Broome
President Pro Tempore
Louisiana State Senate



Paths to Power

Q & A