

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Congresswoman Karen Bass Presents 2011 Edward R. Roybal Memorial Lecture

WHAT: Rep. Karen Bass, a prominent national leader in health policy, will deliver the 2011 Edward R. Roybal Memorial Lecture, in honor of the late congressman and champion of health and aging services for vulnerable populations.

WHEN: Wednesday, Feb. 23, 2011
4:30 p.m.

Sponsored by the USC Edward R. Roybal Institute on Aging at the USC School of Social Work and honorary co-host Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard, the event will also feature the presentation of awards to the recipients of the Pearmain Prize for Excellence in Research on Aging and the USC Roybal Institute Community Partnership Award.

WHO: Karen Bass, prior to representing California's 33rd congressional district, made history when she was elected Speaker of the California State Assembly, becoming the first African-American woman in the country to lead a state legislative body.

Among her accomplishments, Bass jumpstarted infrastructure projects to create new jobs in the state, championed efforts to provide quality healthcare to Californians and increased opportunities for youth. She authored legislation that expanded health insurance coverage for children and provided Los Angeles Unified School District with access to more than \$600 million in additional school funds, and sponsored several bills aimed at reforming the state's foster care system.

Before her life in office, Bass founded Community Coalition, a non-profit organization that works with African-American and Latino communities in South Los Angeles to combat drug use and gang violence by shutting down problem liquor stores and motels. She also worked for nearly a decade as a physician assistant and served as a clinical instructor at the USC Keck School of Medicine Physician Assistant Program.

WHERE: Town and Gown
USC University Park Campus

ABOUT: The USC Edward R. Roybal Institute on Aging hosts this annual event to commemorate Edward R. Roybal's legacy as a passionate advocate for civil rights and equal opportunity. The institute is dedicated to translational research and training that sustains the health, mental health and general well-being of older persons, particularly those from low-income and multi-ethnic backgrounds. It is housed in the Hamovitch Center for Science in the Human Services in the USC School of Social Work.