



La Raine Gonzalez (SFSU 2021)

Ethnicity: African and Korean
Place of Birth: Seoul, South Korea

Party Affiliation: Democratic
Highest Elected Position:
US House of Representatives,
Washington's 10th Congressional
District (2021-now)

Other Positions:
Mayor of Tacoma, WA (2010-18);
Tacoma, WA City Council Member
(2008-09)

Marilyn Sun-Ja Strickland
(b. September 25, 1962)

Marilyn was born in South Korea and grew up in Tacoma, Washington. Her father is African American and fought in WWII and Korea, where he met his Korean wife. Her parents faced discrimination and hardships, which taught her to fight for what is right and to stand up for the underdog. She began her political career serving in the City Council of Tacoma and later as its mayor. In 2021, Marilyn became the first African-Korean American elected to Congress in Washington State and the first American woman of Korean descent in Congress. When she took the oath of office, she proudly wore her traditional Korean outfit. Marilyn has introduced and legislated numerous bills in support of military families, children's nutrition, and the teaching of APIA history in schools.