

Culver City Democratic Club - U.S. Congress (37th district) Endorsement Questionnaire

Thank you for taking the time to share more about you and your platform with our community. We look forward to reviewing your answers and getting to know you further as a candidate. Please submit this completed questionnaire by Sunday February 20 at 10:00 PM in order to qualify for endorsement consideration. Feel free to email CCDC Election Committee chair Leah Pressman (leahpressman@sbcglobal.net) or member Bubba Fish (fish.bubba@gmail.com) if you have any questions or concerns.

Email *

daniel@danielwaynelee.com

Personal and campaign information

In Yes/No questions, you may also select 'other' to elaborate if needed

What qualifies you for this office? *

I am over 35 and a citizen of the uS.

What community organizations in your district have you worked with prior to starting your campaign? For how long and in what capacity? *

Culver City Community Coalition, Protect Culver City Renters, Culver City Action Network, Culver City Democratic Club, Miracle Mile Democratic Club, Downtown Crenshaw, End Homelessness Now LA, Sierra Club, Food and Water Watch

How many signatures did you turn in to qualify for the ballot? *

Above the required amount.

How much money have you raised for your campaign? *

60K

Who are your top three donors? *

Michelle Weiner, Aby Sher, Hannah Howard

How many unique donors do you have? *

486

What is the average donation amount? *

76.74

Have you pledged to neither seek nor accept campaign contributions from the following?

Fossil fuel entities (including investor owned utilities) *

Yes

No

Other:

Law enforcement entities (i.e. agencies, officer associations, equipment manufacturers/distributors) *

Yes

No

Other:

Corporations and their PACs *

Yes

No

Other:

Real estate developers and landlord interests (ex: California Apartment Association, the California Association of Realtors, and real estate investment groups such as Blackstone). *

Yes

No

Other:

Insurance companies and private healthcare companies *

Yes

No

Other:

Will you seek or accept the endorsement from any of the following?

Fossil fuel entities (including investor owned utilities) *

Yes

No

Other:

Law enforcement entities (i.e. agencies, officer associations, equipment manufacturers/distributors) *

Yes

No

Other:

Corporations and their PACs *

Yes

No

Other:

Real estate developers and landlord interests (ex: California Apartment Association, the California Association of Realtors, and real estate investment groups such as Blackstone) *

Yes

No

Other:

Insurance companies and private healthcare companies *

Yes

No

Other:

Please list significant endorsements you have received for this position. *

Blue America PAC, Rev. James Lawson, Marianne Williamson, Groundgame LA, Americans for Democratic Action Socal, Feel the Bern Dem Club SFV, Progressive Asian Network for Action

If elected, what are your top 3 priorities? How would you achieve them? *

1. Address the Climate Crisis 2. Defend A Person's right to Choose, 3. Pass Immigration Reform 1. Pass the Green New Deal/End Fossil Fuel Subsidies 2. Introduce legislation to codify reproductive rights in law 3. Introduce legislation to transform our racist immigration system

Housing & Homelessness

For Yes/No questions, you may also select 'other' to elaborate if needed

What should be done on a Federal level to address the homelessness crisis in our cities? How would you help address this in Congress? *

.....

What role if any should the Federal government have in zoning and land use decisions? What are specific policies you would support to do so? *

Do you support repealing the Faircloth Amendment to allow the construction of new public housing units? *

Yes

No

Other:

Do you support the American Housing and Economic Mobility Act which invests \$500 billion over the next ten years to build, preserve, and rehab units that will be affordable to lower-income families - an investment that would be funded by lowering the Estate Tax (currently, estate taxes are not owed unless an individual inherits \$22 million or more, this bill would lower that threshold to \$7 million)? *

Yes

No

Other:

Education & Childcare

In Yes/No questions, you may also select 'other' to elaborate if needed

Do you support student loan forgiveness? *

Yes

No

Other:

Do you support student loan forgiveness? If so, do you support forgiving all student debt or just a set amount per borrower? Do you support forgiving student debt? If so, is this for all borrowers, or do you support limiting forgiveness by income or profession? *

I support forgiving student loan debt for all borrowers. The extra money that individuals and families would have to spend would be a large stimulus for the economy.
.....

Would you support the expansion of public services and funds to establish universal childcare (for infants through school age children) and an equitable public education system at all levels (elementary school through college)? *

Yes

No

Other:

Environment

In Yes/No questions, you may also select 'other' to elaborate if needed

Will you support ending Federal subsidies to fossil fuel companies? *

Yes

No

Other:

What are the most urgent infrastructure and climate problems in your district today? What would you prioritize to address these problems? *

Though we have made progress making public transportation fast efficient and free is a priority for my district. Making sure that transportation is close to current low income housing and future affordable housing is a necessary component.If we are to reach our climate change goals we need to decarbonize transportation, construction and housing.
.....

Which of these would you support *

Mandates for electrification for buildings being renovated

Madates for electrification in new residential and commercial buildings

Federal funding for electrification

Other: Requirements for passive heating and cooling and grey water systems.
.....

What Green New Deal policies would you drive at a federal level? What does your ideal vision of these programs look like? *

A just transition. An end to fossil fuel extraction. Ending fossil fuel subsidies. My vision would focus on ending fossil fuel subsidies and using those monies to expand local and regional transportation. Requirements for passive heating and cooling and grey water systems. GHG releases in the context of construction of new homes must be tackled in conjunction with the creation of homes near transit and new transit.
.....

How would you ensure that new infrastructure projects and policies address historic injustices such as environmental racism and prioritize the wellbeing of working class people? *

Yes, every time something new or innovative makes its way into the mainstream it is years to decades before working class people and people of color can benefit. Because the climate crisis has been theorized and in practical reality has hit low income and people of color communities first and hardest the well being of environmental justice communities and people of color should be prioritized in any investment designed to address the climate crisis.

Transportation/safe streets

In Yes/No questions, you may also select 'other' to elaborate if needed

Nearly 40,000 people die in the U.S. from traffic violence each year. What would you do on a Federal level to make our streets safer for all road users? *

Expand the concept of streets for all to the federal level to get more people out of their cars, prevent traffic congestion and the road rage instances that results from such interactions.

How will you work to improve equitable access to non-car modes in your district and across the country (e.g. infrastructure to prioritize safety for pedestrians and bicyclists and dedicated bus and bike lanes)? *

Expand the concept of streets for all to the federal level and require accommodation for modes of travel besides automobile travel in all new road construction.

Traffic is a national crisis, costing our economy billions in lost productivity and exacerbating hardships for working families. What would you do to address this? *

Invest more heavily in public and regional transportation and work to fund the construction of low income on the federal level near public and regional transportation hubs.

Law enforcement reform, criminal/racial justice

In Yes/No questions, you may also select 'other' to elaborate if needed

If elected, will you work to end the privatization of the carceral system in the U.S.? *

Yes

No

Other:

Do you think our country can learn from countries that focus on rehabilitation and restoration rather than punishment and retribution? How can you support efforts in the U.S. Congress to change the costly and harmful federal prison system? *

As a social worker, I believe in care first rather than punishment. I would support pilot programs across the country that decriminalize drugs and seek to connect addicts to recovery rather than incarceration. Similarly, I would work with those imprisoned due to violence in a restorative justice context that seeks to inform them of how their actions harm others and themselves and work towards understanding and healing.

What would you do to support care for those who are incarcerated who are in need of treatment for mental health challenges and substance abuse? *

I would work to pass medicare for all or a similar single payer healthcare system so that those in need of support due to substance abuse or mental health reasons can afford the care that they need to overcome their challenges.

Do you support the MORE Act (Marijuana Opportunity and Expungement Act of 2021) or similar legislation to decriminalize marijuana on the Federal level? If not, why not? *

Yes.

If you had been in the Congress last year, would you have supported the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act HR1280? What about the Breathe act? *

Yes, but I would have pushed for/co-sponsored the BREATHE ACT and organized on its behalf more.

What are the most effective policies the US government can implement to combat global financial corruption and tackle financial crime? *

Increase consequences for financial crime that includes time in federal prison. Restrict campaign contributions from corporations which are, at this point, by definition multinational.

Do you support reparations? If so, in what form, and who should be eligible? *

Yes. In terms of both housing assistance and direct financial payments. I believe that all people living in the US of African lineage should be eligible.

Do you support expanding the Supreme Court or other reforms? *

I support term limits for the supreme court and for the moment expanding it.

Democracy reform

In Yes/No questions, you may also select 'other' to elaborate if needed

What legislation would you propose or support to protect our democracy? *

I had a hand in drafting the text for HJR 48 and I believe that passing it would move our country in the right direction. In addition to that the right to vote should be protected in the constitution, it currently is not. A minor step in between would be to just reinstate the provisions of the voting rights act that were recently gutted.

If you were in the U.S. Congress, would you support the Protect Our Democracy Act – HR5314 introduced by Rep. Adam Schiff? *

No

Yes

Other:

Which of the following policies do you support? *

Eliminating the filibuster

Making election day a national holiday

Mixed member proportional representation

Banning Members of Congress and their spouses, and dependent children from trading on the stock market

Ranked choice voting

Other: Universal Basic Services

LGBTQ

What can be done federally to support LGBTQ+ people targeted by state laws such as bathroom bills, laws requiring school staff to out students believed to be LGBTQ+ community members to their parents, etc? *

I would support a federal law protecting the status of LGBTQ+ from being outed by school staff or work staff. This is basic privacy

If you were in the U.S. Congress, would you support HR5-The Equality Act which prohibits discrimination based on sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity in employment, public accommodations, etc? If not, why not? *

Yes.

Healthcare, mental health & addiction

In Yes/No questions, you may also select 'other' to elaborate if needed

Will you support encoding the protections of Roe vs Wade into federal law? *

Yes

No

Other:

How would you expand access to free medical care, child care, and healthy meals in communities where vulnerable people live? *

Passing single payer healthcare, passing universal childcare and working for the government to require and fund access to healthy foods to all communities within a certain radius.

Do you support paid family and medical leave ? *

Yes

No

Other:

Do you support Medicare for All? *

Yes

No

Other:

Labor/employment/worker protections

The pandemic has taken an overwhelming toll on service industry workers, particularly Black and Brown workers (bearing the brunt of the frontline work, dying at disproportionately higher rates, lower rates of rehiring). What policies would you advocate for to support the recovery and future well-being of these workers? *

National Hero Pay. Rehiring legislation that gives former employees priority. A higher national minimum wage at \$25/hr+.

What policies do you support to expand workers' abilities to organize and democratize the workplace? *

Passing the PRO Act.

In order to protect vulnerable workers, such as undocumented workers and justice-involved individuals, what will you do to expand protections? *

Pass a guest worker bill that would protect undocumented workers. Deeply fine employers for violations of undocumented workers' rights.

What unions have a significant influence, membership, or interests in your district? What is your relationship to these unions? *

SEIU, SEIU-UHW, Unite Here Local aa, IBEW Local 11

As an elected official, what would be your stance towards the rights of workers directly employed by you or your office? *

I would seek to provide a living wage to all workers and support their efforts to unionize.

What is your position on Universal Basic Income (UBI)? How would you plan to address the gross economic injustice that exists in this country and which gravely harms those with the fewest advantages in society. *

I support the UBI. Though I believe we should explore universal basic services to address inflation. We also need to remove the upper limit on income taxes and ban tax returns for companies that receive subsidies from the federal government.

How would you support limiting outsourced/private employment of public services in favor of maintaining or expanding municipal and public sector jobs? *

I support local hire provisions in government contracts to make sure that members of the community are employed in public sector jobs.

Do you support the PRO Act – HR842 which protects workers' rights to organize? If not, why not? *

YES.

Immigration

In Yes/No questions, you may also select 'other' to elaborate if needed

Do you support dismantling ICE? *

Yes

No

Other:

Do you support repealing anti-immigrant policies at the US/Mexico and US/Canada border? *

Yes

No

Other:

Do you support full citizenship/amnesty for all undocumented immigrants? *

Yes

No

Other:

What alternatives do you support to border security which currently emphasizes criminalizing immigrants and refugees (in violation of international law) and high tech security “solutions,” rather than humanitarian responses to people fleeing to the U.S. because they are unsafe or unable to sustain themselves or their families financially? *

A guest worker program and a dedicated easy visitation agreement between the US, Mexico and Canada.

What are your priorities for addressing refugee crises around the world and immigration reform in the US? *

We must lead on climate policy which is precipitating the refugee crisis. We must reform our racist immigration system that prizes European immigration. We must change our border practices which result in more loss of life than more humane practices.

Do you support citizenship for DACA recipients and people with Temporary Protected Status?

*

Yes

No

Other:

Foreign Policy

In Yes/No questions, you may also select 'other' to elaborate if needed

How would you support efforts to rebuild the U.S. diplomatic corps and support greater diversity among the ranks of U.S. diplomats? *

I would work with women's groups, historically Black colleges, disabled groups, Latino/a/Latinx groups to encourage the recruitment of a more diverse pool into the US diplomatic corps. But, the diplomatic corp itself also needs to emphasize working with more diverse international partners so that such work is more attractive to a diverse pool of talent.

Check if you support *

- The repeal and update of the 2001 Authorization for Use of Military Force
- Legislation along the lines of the bi-partisan National Security Powers Act that was introduced in the US Senate last summer?

Should the U.S. end military support for the Saudi-led coalition fighting in Yemen? *

- Yes
- No
- Other:

Should the U.S. continue its military support of repressive regimes in Saudi Arabia, Egypt etc? *

- Yes
- No
- Other:

Should the U.S. suspend the sale of military goods to Saudi Arabia until that county ends the blockade of Yemen? *

- yes
- No
- Other:

What do you think is the role and purpose of U.S. diplomatic efforts in preventing war and conflict around the world? *

US diplomatic efforts to this points are focused on protecting American corporate interests. Our military is the stick that we use to push diplomatic talks forward. The Iran nuclear deal is a great example of diplomatic success but it is not the norm. Ideally, US diplomatic efforts should work to find common ground among combatants and to look ahead to prevent potential conflict around resources like water, crops and land. As the climate crisis ramps up we will potentially see more such conflicts if we do not work with countries around the world to make sure that their residents have the resources that they need to survive.

Should the U.S. prohibit direct commercial sales and weapons sales to any country which engages in human rights violations, genocide or war crimes? *

YES.

Other

In Yes/No questions, you may also select 'other' to elaborate if needed

How would you use the office if you were elected only to face a Republican majority? *

Students of the Civil rights Movement, Women's Movement and Gay Right's Movement know that a majority is not a bulwark against change. Some of our largest changes have come under conservative presidents. In this context if serving under a republican majority I would work more pointedly with organizers and activists outside of the system to push for necessary changes on the inside. We don't need to focus only on blue or purple district but the red ones as well. Places where people, who may have been seduced by hate, can nevertheless understand basic need and basic empathy.

Would you support the creation of a public bank? Why/why not? *

Yes.

Which current members of Congress do you align with? Who is on your “Squad”? *

Ihlan Omar, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, Cori Bush, Pramila Jayapal, Rho Khanna

If elected, which Congressional Caucuses will you join? *

Progressive, Black, Homelessness

Do you support tax policies that address economic injustice, e.g. taxing the wealthy and corporations in proportion to their income/exorbitant profits? *

Yes

No

Other:

Are there any issues not mentioned that you would like to speak to? *

i firmly believe that we need to amend the constitution to address Citizens United and other cases. But, we should also interrogate the constitution itself. It may just be the start of the conversation. But, it is necessary.

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