

Culver City Democratic Club - 2022 State Senate (28th district) 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 Bubba Fish (fish.bubba@gmail.com) if you have any questions or concerns.

Email *

JamaalGulledge@JamaalGulledge.com

Personal and campaign information

What in your life or work experience qualifies you for this office? *

I worked in assisted living with seniors for approximately 12 years and have currently worked at UCLA/UCLA Health for nearly 8 years working with students and healthcare professionals.. I've also worked for the State of Oregon with the Department of Environmental Quality (Executive branch). My whole life has been dedicated to serving others which qualifies me for this office. I have also volunteered for campaigns and marched for Black Lives Matter, Women's Rights, science, and Immigration Reform. My background is a combination of public service, activism, and electoral politics.

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

I am somewhat new to the district and have not worked with any local organizations. However, I am a member of the Altadena NAACP. I have volunteer several hours towards their veteran's resources outreach.

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

N/A

How much money have you raised to finance your campaign? *

We are in the early stages of the campaign and have only raised about \$5,000 however we are signing with fundraising consultants to significantly expand our fundraising goals.

Who are your top three donors? *

Healthcare, public service, and IT employees

How many unique donors do you have? *

So far about 20 however we are still in the early stages of the campaign and will be signing with a fundraising consultant this week.

How many unique donors do you have? *

20

What is the average donation amount? *

\$72

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

Fossil fuel entities? *

Yes

No

Law enforcement entities?

Yes

No

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

Yes

No

Any corporations or their PACs?

Yes

No

If you would like to explain any of your answers to the above campaign contribution questions, please do so here.

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

Fossil fuel entities?

Yes

No

Law enforcement entities?

Yes

No

Real estate developers and their landlord interests (i.e. California Apartment Association, the California Association of Realtors, real estate investment groups such as Blackstone)? *

Yes

No

Any corporations or their PACs? *

Yes

No

If you would like to explain any of your answers to the above endorsement questions, you may do so here.

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

Local community members, college professors, lawyers, doctors.

If elected, what are your top 3 priorities and how would you go about achieving them? *

My top three priorities include homelessness, affordable housing, and addressing food deserts. I would propose legislation that initiates a Housing First approach that houses individuals without preconditions. I would also push legislation that invests in public housing by allowing the state government to purchase real estate, and land to build sustainable long-term housing solutions. This would also be tied into addressing our food deserts in South Los Angeles. My legislation would encourage the state to build public grocery stores on mixed-use properties so that the unhoused could be employed by these stores and earn a livable wage.

Housing & Homelessness

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

The state is facing a housing crisis. What specific policies and bills do you support to address supply, stability, and affordability? *

I support policies that protect tenants, especially low-income tenants facing eviction and displacement due to the increasing cost of rents across the state including but not limited to pausing rent/mortgage for renters/homeowners that become terminally ill, canceling rent under a state of emergency particularly as it relates to pandemics, regulating rent increases to ensure increases don't outpace wages, legislation that guarantees that renters are only evicted if they have broken a specific lease term, caused significant damage, or have not paid rent for three months in a row (post-pandemic withstanding). I would also support legislation that provides legal counsel for tenants during eviction proceedings. I would support legislation that holds landlords accountable for their actions by increasing oversight by requiring annual reports of that disclose average rent, number of evicted renters, number of rejected renters, and number of vacant units. I support legislation that would prohibit landlords from discriminating against tenants that receive federal or state assistance. Additionally, I support legislation that taxes developers for vacant units, and tax incentives for developers that offer at least 50% of their units to low-income tenants. AB 1482, SB 5, SB 329, are all examples of bills that I would support to address the supply, stability, and affordability of housing.

How can the state support cities in creating affordable housing supply? *

The state can support cities in creating affordable housing supply by placing caps on statewide rent and just cause eviction requirements. The state can also assist cities by increasing funding for public housing

What kinds of housing subsidies do you support? *

I support low-income, renters tax credit, section 8, and public housing subsidies.

Do you support split roll legislation? (use 'other' if you wish to elaborate) *

Yes

No

Other:

Do you support a vacancy tax? *

Yes

No

Other:

Select the following land use reforms you pledge to support even if residents in your local community are opposed? *

end exclusionary zoning

rezone single family home communities

mixed income housing

abolish parking minimums

establish parking maximums

reduce the minimum lot size for development

Other:

Do you support a repeal of Costa-Hawkins? *

Yes

No

Other:

Do you support Ellis Act reform? *

Yes

No

Other:

Do you support municipalities using mechanisms within SB9 and SB10 to opt out of the upzoning mandated within them? *

Yes

No

Other:

Do you support a ballot measure that would completely restore all zoning authority to municipalities? *

Yes

No

Other:

What approaches to addressing homelessness do you favor? *

Decriminalizing homelessness, Housing First policy, long-term solutions (permanent housing vs. short-term/shelters), increased purchasing of real estate and land by the state, free public transportation, vacancy tax.
.....

Do you support local ordinances prohibiting street camping? *

Yes

No

Other:

Do you support a housing guarantee? *

Yes

No

Other:

Do you support penalizing landlords who refuse Section 8 tenants? *

Yes

No

Other:

Environment

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

If you support the Green New Deal, what GND policies could you implement in your district? What tools would you use to set targets in line with science, and to make sure targets are hit? *

I support the Green New Deal. One of the ways we can implement policies of the GND is by Investing in conservation and public lands to cultivate our soils, water, and air by banning fracking and denying permit renewals for current drilling. I support reducing carbon emissions in the district by drafting legislation that transitions current homes away from gas-powered heating/stoves and requires new homes to be built without dependency on natural gas. Additionally, I would support legislation that increases grants for solar panels to help decrease dependency on natural gas/oil. I would support and propose legislation that transitions all public transportation including public school buses in California to electric. Furthermore, I would support legislation that supports funding for increased light rail/streetcar options on major intersections in our district such as streetcars on Venice, Olympic, Wilshire, La Cienega, Sepulveda, and more. I believe the best tools to use when setting targets in line with science is making sure experts are brought to the table. This includes holding hearings, having climate advisors and organizations that believe in climate change available to help set and measure those targets.

What issues of environmental racism affect your district, and how would you attempt to correct these historical injustices? How will you work to protect frontline communities? *

Environmental racism has drastically affected our district. Our district sits between four major highways (405, 10, 110, and 105). The air quality in our district is often unsafe and as a result, the rate of asthma is much higher in much of South LA than it is in other areas of Los Angeles. At least 51 operational oil wells are still operating in residential neighborhoods, with 9% of South LA inhabitants living within 500 feet of a truck route and 8% living within 500 feet of an industrial plant. This entails upgrading public transportation to reduce localized pollution, phasing out hazardous sectors such as neighborhood oil drilling, and advocating for community-driven climate investments with anti-displacement measures. This endeavor also necessitates the advancement of quality career pathways in non-polluting industries as well as the development of energy-efficient, affordable homes so that our communities can afford to remain in our district. This also entails increasing access to preventative healthcare to ensure that those currently living in our district and suffering from the effects of environmental racism receive the care they need.

Do you support electrification of residences? (removing gas appliances, etc.) (use 'other' to elaborate if needed) *

Yes

No

Other:

Do you support a net zero or carbon negative standard? *

Yes

No

Other:

Do you support closing the Playa Vista natural gas facility? *

Yes

No

Other:

Do you support a state takeover of PG&E? *

Yes

No

Other:

Do you support penalizing users of rooftop solar? *

Yes

No

Other:

How would you support a just transition to a green economy without penalizing workers? *

I would support a just transition to a green economy without penalizing workers by ensuring labor is involved in any decision-making but also by creating trade/vocational training for workers that are currently in industries that contribute to the detriment of climate change. We must ensure there is an equitable transition to green energy jobs so that workers do not lose their current jobs. I would also support funding that provides other educational or trade opportunities for those that don't wish to go into the green economy but may be at risk for losing their jobs as the transition happens.

Do you oppose the privatization of the water supply? What policies should be implemented right away to address water shortages, privatization, and guarantee safe and clean water for all communities? *

I oppose the privatization of water supply. In fact, I believe utilities (electric, water, heating) should be free. To address water shortages, I would propose and support legislation that provides subsidies and grants to transition homes to drought friendly landscaping. I would also support legislation that requires new homes/apartments only be built with drought friendly landscaping to help reduce the overuse of water. I would also support legislation that helped transition homes to utilize grey water systems, expand education on water conservation and create tax incentives for businesses and homes that reduce water use. I support legislation that requires the state/municipalities to capture run off water and recycle it as appropriate. Lastly, I support legislation that would stop privatization.

What is your position on desalination? *

Presently desalination is expensive but more research is needed to help decrease the cost as we search for alternative drinking water options. Desalination may also result in worsening climate change. We need to develop methods that don't increase the damages of climate change but also provide alternative options to supply fresh drinking water.

Healthcare

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

Do you support Medicare for All? *

Yes

No

Other:

I support AB1400, however I would also support legislation that gives Californian's the freedom to opt into a public option or keep their employer covered healthcare.

Given the lack of action on Medicare for All at the federal level and recent failure of AB1400, what role do you think California state representatives should play in providing universal health care to people living in California? If yes, what will you do in the Assembly to help convince other members to support universal healthcare in CA? *

CA state representatives should work to provide universal healthcare to people living in California by proposing legislation that provides a public option for those living in California regardless of immigration status. This is likely to be the best way to universal coverage given the lack of courage to pass universal healthcare for all. To encourage my colleagues to support this option I would work with committee chairs to give public hearings, engage national figures that support universal healthcare to hold rallies, use social media, and mailers in colleagues districts. Lastly, the best way to convince colleagues to support this legislation is to share personalized stories of people living in their districts that would benefit from universal healthcare. Attaching a face and story to this legislation should help change their minds.

The LA County Jail is the largest mental healthcare provider in the nation. How would you work to replace this punishment apparatus with prevention and treatment? *

This is attached to universal healthcare. We need healthcare to support the mentally ill, not jails. We also need to rebuild the mental health institutions that were destroyed by the Reagan administration. This includes lobbying the federal government and the Governor to fund these institutions and subsidizing the cost of school for mental health professionals. We should also fund alternative first responders so that police officers are not responding to mental health crises.

What are the most important policies that can be enacted to improve child welfare and maternal health? *

The most important policies that can be enacted to improve child welfare and maternal health include universal healthcare, increased funding to historically underrepresented schools, public housing, universal broadband coverage, increase duration of paid family leave, and increased access to family planning resources.

How should California strengthen its paid family leave program/policies? *

Working in human resources, I see firsthand how we can strengthen this program. California should strengthen its paid family leave program by increasing the duration of the protected/paid leave, and increasing the percentage of salary covered by the paid leave program.

The legalization of cannabis has not been accompanied by expunging marijuana convictions, reparations to the victims of the drug war, or an equitable distribution of commercial cannabis opportunities. How would you balance social justice and medical concerns while ending the drug war? *

To balance social justice and medical concerns while ending the drug war by ensuring that revenue from legal marijuana is reinvested in communities hit hardest by the War on Drugs, prioritizing grants for minority and women-owned dispensaries, working with my federal colleagues to lobby POTUS to remove marijuana from schedule 1 and expunge records, and researching legislation that would remove marijuana from employment drug tests.

Do you support safe injection sites for drug users? *

Yes

No

Other:

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

How will you work to improve equitable access to non-car modes of transportation in your district? *

To improve equitable access to non-car modes of transportation in my district, I would support free public transportation in my district. I would also propose legislation that would support adding a street car system throughout Los Angeles and Culver City that reduces the dependency on cars.

Do you support tax incentives and rebates for being car-free? (similar to those for purchasing an electric car) *

Yes

No

Other:

Do you support the prohibition of all freeway widening in California? *

Yes

No

Other:

Do you support decriminalizing jaywalking? *

Yes

No

Other:

Do you support Calbike's proposal for a \$500M investment in a bicycle and pedestrian network grant program? *

Yes

No

Other:

Do you support proposals mandating that municipalities implement complete streets redesigns? *

Yes

No

Other:

Do you support making public transportation and bike-share free? *

Yes

No

Other:

Criminal Justice

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

What are your plans for criminal justice and public safety? What actions do you think should be taken at the state level to reduce police violence? *

My plans for criminal justice and public safety include bringing together law enforcement and communities to draft state rules on police officers' use of force, making fresh investments at all levels to fund cutting-edge police enforcement training programs, fighting for treatment and rehabilitation options, rather than jail, for low-level, nonviolent drug offenders, putting money into re-entry job programs for formerly jailed people, allowing them to apply for and get financial aid for higher education and vocational school.

Do you support removing armed officers from traffic enforcement? *

Yes

No

Other:

Do you support ending qualified immunity at the state level? *

Yes

No

Other:

Do you support reallocating municipal budgets from law enforcement toward social services? *

Yes

No

Other: I strongly support this, but I do not support the slogan "Defund the Police".

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

Do you support enfranchising all convicts currently serving prison time? *

Yes

No

Other:

What do you think are the most important actions to take to keep California elections free and fair? *

I think the most important actions to take to keep California elections free and fair include implementing a rank choice voter program for all of California, enhancing the process it takes to run for office by digitizing forms, reducing the requirement of signatures during a worldwide pandemic, and making election day a paid state holiday.
.....

Do you support legislation to remove corporate contributions from elections? *

Yes

No

Other:

What, if any, changes would you make to California's recall, referendum, and ballot initiative process? *

First, there should be just cause to recall a Governor. The Governor should have broken a law for a recall to be eligible for signatures. Increase the requirement of signatures for California's recall to be between 20%-30%.
.....

Schools have been underfunded for decades. What investments are you willing to make to build resilient schools that can overcome future crises? *

I would support legislation that requires the state to distribute a percentage of funds from a budget surplus back to underfunded and historically disadvantaged schools. I would also support tuition-free college for Californians, reinvestment & expansion into our career technical education programs, and stronger wages for educators.

Our schools are in need of maintenance. What is your plan to update them? *

To update our schools, we need to direct funds from the infrastructure bill, set broadband standards so that all students have access to the internet, and work with the tech industry to help modernize our public schools and create tax incentives for their investments.

What are the pros and cons of charter schools and how should the state regulate and support greater accountability for them? *

Charter schools can utilize unique ways in address educational gaps and may have smaller class sizes. Nonetheless, charter schools are often credited for being for-profit. The state must regulate and support greater accountability for charter schools by setting state standards, requiring greater oversight, and increase transparency.

What are your feelings about school choice? How do you plan to increase funding for education? *

School choice often takes funding away from historically oppressed and underfunded schools. To increase funding for education, we must redirect a percentage of funds anytime the state has a budget surplus, lobby for additional funding from the federal government, allow local municipalities to direct taxes to schools and commit more state funding for public schools that increase teacher pay and reduce class sizes.

Other

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

LGBTQ+ rights (youth, and elderly).

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