

# East Bay Stonewall Democratic Club

## Endorsement Questionnaire

Thank you for your interest in obtaining an endorsement from the East Bay Stonewall Democratic Club.

Per the Club's bylaws, to be eligible for endorsement, a candidate must be a registered Democrat. All candidates must also complete this candidate questionnaire to be considered for an endorsement. Endorsements are decided by the general membership, and candidates must receive at least 60% of votes cast to be endorsed.

The deadline for questionnaires is posted on the East Bay Stonewall website (<http://eastbaystonewalldemocrats.org/Elections>). Any candidate submitting a questionnaire that is received after the deadline will not appear on the endorsement ballot. To ensure a fair process, no grace period will be granted.

Please return your completed questionnaire via Google forms by clicking submit at the bottom of this form. All form submissions are final. If you have questions, please contact Joe Greaves, EBSDC PAC chair via email at [jsphgreaves@gmail.com](mailto:jsphgreaves@gmail.com).

Email \*

liz@ortegaforassembly.com

Name (First Last) \*

Liz Ortega

Are you a registered Democrat \*

Yes

No

Office you are seeking? (e.g. City Council, School Board, Supervisor, etc) \*

Assemblymember

Jurisdiction \*

California State Assembly

District \*

District 20

Are you an East Bay Stonewall Democratic Club member in good standing? If you are unsure, email [eastbaystonewalldems@gmail.com](mailto:eastbaystonewalldems@gmail.com). \*

Yes

No

I self-identify as: (check all boxes that apply; note these identifiers will be used publicly during our endorsement process.) \*

Gay

Lesbian

Transgender

Gender non-conforming

Bisexual

Queer

Straight

Other: .....

How have you participated in East Bay Stonewall Democratic Club activities, and/or supported the Club other ways? What other LGBTQ+ organizations are you affiliated with and in what capacity? What other Democratic clubs are you affiliated with? \*

I have not actively been involved with East Bay Stonewall Democratic Club directly, but have worked with members of this clubs and LGBTQ community for over two decades.  
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Using specific examples, please identify the causes you have advocated for and the ways you have helped advance LGBTQ+ rights or otherwise helped foster a community of inclusivity for LGBTQ+ individuals and families. \*

My role in the labor movement has shaped and provided opportunities for supporting LGBTQ issues. Going back to my first job at age 21 years as an SEIU Local 250 organizer fighting for marriage equality by gathering signatures for ballot initiatives, making calls and canvassing. In negotiations I pushed for domestic partnership rights and rights and currently work on ensuring our contract language reflects our progress in CA . As the head of the Alameda Labor Council, I secured funding for our Oakland Pride events and ensured our active participation by educating and turning out our members.  
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Have you previously supported LGBTQ+ candidates for office? If yes, did that include financial support? \*

Yes, I supported Rebecca Kaplan, Jovanka Beckels, Victor Aquilar, David Campos

Which LGBTQ+ organizations and elected officials have formally endorsed you for this race? \*

Attorney General Rob Bonta  
Board of Equalization Malia Cohen  
Insurance Commissioner Ricardo Lara  
Senator Maria Elena Durazo  
Assemblymember Bill Quirk  
Assemblywoman Mia Bonta  
Assemblywoman Lorena Gonzalez  
Assemblywoman Wendy Carillo  
Assemblywoman Luz Rivas  
Labor Movement Activist Dolores Huerta  
Corina Lopez, Councilmember, San Leandro  
Jim Prola, Former Vice Mayor and Councilmember, San Leandro  
Fred Simon, Councilmember, San Leandro  
Malia Vella, Councilmember, Alameda  
Aisha Wahab, Councilmember, Hayward  
Francisco Zermeno, Councilmember, Hayward  
Diana Prola, Trustee, San Leandro School Board  
Elizabeth Echols, Director, East Bay Regional Parks Ward 1  
Dee Rosario, Director, East Bay Regional Parks Ward 2  
Marisol Rubio, Vice President, Dublin San Ramon Services District  
California Teacher Association  
California Nurses Association  
Amalgamated Transit Union  
International Union of Operating Engineers

Please describe a policy/goal that is part of your formal platform that benefits the LGBTQ+ community? \*

I think that many LGBTQ+ community, especially Trans, face many barriers in health, education, justice system, spite the progressive laws and leaders we have in our state capital. While the law do exists, it's not enforced and those voices are left without support. Our LGBTQ+ seniors face in assisted living facilities, and the discrimination they face from staff and isolation from other residents who still hold negative views of the LGBTQ+ community. A large portion of our homeless youth are LGBTQ+, and they often have little options for resources that are catered to them. Our LGBTQ+ community has a higher rate of substance and alcohol abuse, with many falling victim to our opioid crisis.

What makes you uniquely qualified for the office and how are you different or unique from the other candidates in your race? \*

In many of the roles in protecting working families, standing up for the injustices that LGBTQ-SGL experience, has always been front and center in my advocacy. I am a Latina, cis-gender woman, but stand as a strong ally, making sure the rights LGBTQ-SGL at work, in our justice system, schools, community and elected roles, is present and strong. I have led union and community immigrant rights efforts, helping to secure resident status and American citizenship for many of our members. I've been at the bargaining table fighting employers for livable wages, benefits and ensuring workers have more power in the workplace over their work, safety and lives. As Statewide Political Director for AFSCME Local 3299, the University of California's largest employee union, I secured the passage of state legislation to maintain and protect essential service jobs at every UC campus. Now, as the first Latina in history to be elected Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Alameda Labor Council, I led the charge during the pandemic to secure paid sick leave and hazard pay for essential public safety, health providers, and frontline workers. I've also led the charge fighting corporate interests, from billionaire baseball team owners to Amazon. I am seeking the endorsement of UAW because of its history and reputation as a militant, democratic and progressive trade union fighting for the rights of workers across the state. That is why I am running for State Assembly, I believe that advocating for all rights, of all people in this District and California, is what I have been doing my entire career, and will continue as the Assemblywoman for AD20.

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