

# 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 Shay Franco-Clausen, EBSDC PAC chair via email at [REDACTED]

Email \*

[REDACTED]

Email \*

[REDACTED]

Name (First Last) \*

Katie Porter

Are you a registered Democrat \*

Yes

No

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

U.S. Senator from California

Jurisdiction \*

California

District \*

Statewide

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'm excited to learn more about the East Bay Stonewall Democratic Club.

I work closely with the LGBTQ Center of Orange County and Lavender Democrats of OC, both leading efforts in a historically conservative area to champion the rights and freedoms of the LGBTQ+ community. I also meet regularly with other LGBTQ+ advocacy groups and am a proud member of the Congressional LGBTQ+ Equality Caucus.

Last year, I convened local LGBTQ+ advocates for a roundtable discussion on how we can work together to protect every Californian's right to be who they are and love who they love. Participants included Stephen T. Hicklin, Supervising Attorney for the UCI Law Transgender Name & Gender Change Clinic; Erin Pollard, Program Manager of the Pride Scholars and Student Equity at Irvine Valley College; Lauren Dahl, a Social Worker and Lead Case Manager at Shanti; Stephanie Camacho, the Van Dyke Director of Advocacy & Education at the LGBTQ Center OC; Luis Gomez, Director of Immigration Resources at the LGBTQ Center OC; Philip Yaeger, Executive Director and CEO at Radiant Health Centers; Johann Ortizo, Director of Programs at APAI; and Justin Massey, who serves on the Orange County Equality Coalition Board of Directors. Other groups represented included the Council for Global Equality, Transgender Law Center, El Jardín de las Mariposas, Casa Arcoiris, Human Rights Watch, and Rainbow Railroad.

In 2022, I traveled to the southern border alongside leading LGBTQ+ advocates. I met with migrants in both LGBTQ+ shelters to discuss the challenges for LGBTQ+ people seeking asylum in the U.S.

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. \*

I have zero tolerance for hate and bigotry. Every Californian should be free to live their truth, regardless of their gender identity or sexual orientation.

As a member of the Congressional LGBTQI+ Equality Caucus, I'm pushing to protect the freedoms of all people, regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity. It's unacceptable that in a majority of states, it is still legal to discriminate against people based on their sexual orientation or gender identity in housing, employment, and public accommodations. I'm a strong champion of passing the Equality Act, which would make such discrimination illegal, into law as soon as possible.

I've also written legislation, based on guidance from leading advocates, to collect stronger data on the LGBTQ+ community so that policymakers can better address issues facing LGBTQ+ individuals and target resources where they're needed most. I've championed bills to protect LGBTQ+ youth, including legislation to better protect LGBTQ+ students from bullying and harassment and legislation to ban child welfare program providers from discriminating against LGBTQ+ kids. I'm also continuing to push for my bill to better protect transgender Americans from losing their credit histories if they change their names.

I'm proud to have several members of the LGBTQ+ community in leadership positions in both my official Congressional office and on our campaign. As with every campaign I've ever run, we will mandate implicit bias training for every employee, just like I do in my congressional office. We will also continue to partner with LGBTQ+ advocacy groups on events to make clear our commitment to protecting the LGBTQ+ community, including those who identify as LGBTQ+ within our organization.

Have you previously supported LGBTQ+ candidates for office? If yes, did that include financial support? \*

Yes. I'm proud to have helped elect (including through financial support) Robert Garcia, Mondaire Jones, and Ritchie Torres to Congress. I also provided financial support to candidates Jamie McLeod-Skinner, Gina Ortiz Jones, Will Rollins, and Beth Doglio.

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

I'm proud to have the support of Lavender Democrats of Orange County, State Assembly Members Alex Lee and Chris Ward, and Executive Director of Latino Equality Alliance and Huntington Park Council Member Eddie Martinez.

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

America is supposed to be the land of the free. It's on all of us to protect freedom – but our elected leaders need to be willing to bear the brunt of this responsibility. Elected officials must show courage and never tolerate bigotry and hate.

We need to protect all LGBTQ+ Americans from bigotry, especially our students. I'm an outspoken advocate for passing the Equality Act. It would make it illegal to discriminate against people based on their sexual orientation or gender identity in housing, employment, and public accommodations – including schools that receive federal funding. America's commitment to freedom shouldn't stop at the schoolhouse door. Members of Congress should protect LGBTQ+ students' rights to privacy and dignity by passing the Equality Act.

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

As a longtime consumer advocate, I've seen firsthand how giant corporations use their outsized influence in Washington, DC, to game our political system and rig the rules against everyday people. That's why I first ran for office six years ago – to shake up the status quo and get the federal government working for all Americans, not faceless multinational corporations. In that time, I'm proud to have gone toe-to-toe with some of the country's most powerful CEOs and government officials, demanding accountability for workers and communities and fighting to achieve real change for the Californians I represent. Now, I'm eager to take that same fight to the Senate.

Undoubtedly, Washington caters to the desires of billionaires and the most powerful corporations – leaving most Americans behind. And so much of that catering happens in the U.S. Senate. With this election, California has a once-in-a-generation opportunity to send one of its strongest warriors to Shake Up the Senate and challenge the status quo. I didn't go to Washington to play by the rules; I went to Washington to rewrite them. And that's precisely what I'll do in the United States Senate.

I am known in Congress for calling out corruption and passing legislation to hold corporate cheaters accountable. I'm also just one of 11 members to reject federal lobbyist money and one of the few members who has never taken a cent from corporate PACs. In fact, I'm the only elected official in this race who has never taken corporate PAC money and refuses donations from federal lobbyists and corporate executives. We need more leaders in the U.S. Senate who will do things differently and get the government working for people – not corporations.

This form was created inside of Shay Franco-Clausen.