

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) *

Lateefah Simon

Are you a registered Democrat *

Yes

No

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

Congress

Jurisdiction *

Albany, Berkeley, Emeryville, Oakland, Piedmont, Alameda, San Leandro

District *

CA-12

Are you an East Bay Stonewall Democratic Club member in good standing? If you are unsure, *
email 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 participated in East Bay Stonewall Democratic Club activities in the past, including sponsoring events. As an elected official and lifelong organizer in the Bay Area, I've worked with Democratic clubs across the East Bay and San Francisco.
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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. *

As a 25-year veteran organizer and a nationally recognized civil rights advocate, I am proud to have fought alongside organizations like East Bay Stonewall Democratic Club, HRC, EQCA and California's LGBTQ community to ensure everyone is treated equally under the law.

My first job was with the Young Women Freedom Center. At 19, I became it's Executive Director and grew the organization into a one of the nation's leading juvenile justice reentry youth-run organizations that supported and served gender non-binary and trans youth. Under my leadership, the organization hired diverse staff, all of whom were justice involved, and expanded across California and provided fiscal sponsorship, operational support, coaching, and training youth who were part of the underground street economy. In decades since, I have also managed philanthropic funds that have directly supported LGBTQ+ serving organizations, especially those serving LGBTQ+ folks in communities of color.

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

Yes. I have endorsed LGBTQ+ candidates in California, and in other states, donated money, and fundraised for their campaign.

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

Congressman Robert Garcia
State Senator Scott Wiener
BART Director Bevan Dufty
BART Director Janice Li
BART Director Rebecca Saltzman
City College Trustee Tom Temprano
Berkeley City Councilmember Terry Taplin
Emeryville Mayor John Bauters
EQCA Board Member Alex Randolph

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

The LGBTQ+ community is under attack not just across the country, but right here in California. LGBTQ+ youth, especially transgender kids, are being attacked by state legislators, school boards, and right-wing fanatics. Our federal government must do everything in its power to not only ensure the progress we've made in civil rights for the LGBTQ+ aren't rolled back, but we continue to expand and make progress. If elected to Congress, I will work closely with East Bay Stonewall Democratic Club and other LGBTQ+ serving organizations to:

- Foster safe, welcoming, and affirming schools for LGBTQ+ students and expand resources for students facing discrimination and bullying.
 - Remove barriers and invest in more accessible, high-quality, nondiscriminatory health care services for LGBTQ+ people.
 - Fight to protect and strengthen the civil rights of LGBTQ+ people involved in the criminal justice system.
 - Expand competent services to support those experiencing homelessness and create greater access to safe and stable housing for LGBTQ people.
 - Codify equal rights protections for gender non-binary and transgender people and expand federal protections for communities under attack.
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What makes you uniquely qualified for the office and how are you different or unique from the other candidates in your race? *

I am the only candidate in the race that has decades of experience as an organizer and elected official. I was the youngest woman to ever win the MacArthur Genius Grant and after my work at the YWFC, I continued my work in my community, spearheading multiple successful community-based initiatives and serving a variety of local organizations. I lead then District Attorney Kamala Harris' renowned Back on Track program. In 2016, galvanized by the death of Oscar Grant, I ran and was elected to the Bay Area Rapid Transit Board of Directors. In this role I sought to make BART more affordable for working families and — because I was born legally blind — transit-dependent people like me. I serve as a Senior Advisor to Governor Gavin Newsom on policing and a Trustee for California State University. I have spent my life advocating for the disadvantaged and the voiceless; I will take the shared stories and experiences of this community to the halls of Congress and I will be an effective leader in D.C. on day one.

I'm proud to have the endorsement of over 50 elected officials and leaders in the East Bay and across the state, the Congressional Progressive Caucus, EMILY's List, League of Conservation Voters and more. I have the support of every labor union that has endorsed in this race, including, SEIU, National Nurses United, Building and Construction Trades Council of Alameda County, Teamsters Joint Council 7, and National Union of Healthcare Workers. I have also received the endorsement of every democratic club that has endorsed in this race so far including East Bay Young Democrats, Albany Democratic Club, City of Alameda Democratic Club, and Latine Young Democrats of the East Bay.

I am the leading fundraiser in the race, and have out-raised all of the other candidates in the race combined.

This form was created inside of Shay Franco-Clausen.

Google Forms