

## 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 \*

Ron@RonForCalifornia.com

Name (First Last) \*

Ron Galperin

Are you a registered Democrat \*

Yes

No

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

California State Controller

Jurisdiction \*

Statewide

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? \*

While not specifically involved with East Bay Stonewall, I have been active within LGBTQ+ organizations for years. As the first out and proud member of the LGBTQ+ community elected to citywide office in Los Angeles, I am honored to represent and advocate for our community at the city, county, state, and national level. Well before serving in public office, I served as a member of the LGBT Advisory Council of the Los Angeles Human Relations Commission, and I have been an outspoken supporter of LGBTQ+ causes and issues in Los Angeles and beyond. I helped mobilize the LGBTQ+ community to support the campaigns of Joe Biden, Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama and served as a delegate of the LGBT Caucus at the Democratic National Committee. I was active with the "No on Proposition 8" Campaign, and have helped support organizations including GLAAD, the Human Rights Campaign, Lambda Legal, the Los Angeles LGBT Center and Stonewall Democrats. I've been proud to work with just about every LGBTQ+ organization in the Los Angeles area. I have also been active with the Victory Fund and Victory Institute - including as a Fellow for Victory's programming at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government.

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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. \*

In my nine years as L.A. City Controller, I've transformed the Controller's role and improved public services by using data, technology, audits and reports, dashboards, maps and more—to better meet people's needs. I have used this strategy specifically to address the needs of LGBTQ+ people in Los Angeles.

In June, I released LGBTQ+ Pride: Toward Equality & Equity, an online story map with data and visualizations showing the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on the LGBTQ+ community. The report highlighted that in the last year, at least 66% of LGBTQ+ households reported serious financial problems due to the pandemic, as opposed to 44% of non-LGBTQ+ households. And 20% of LGBTQ+ households experienced food insecurity, compared to 6% of non-LGBTQ+ households.

I created a new online LGBTQ+ digital resource guide, highlighting 100+ organizations in the L.A. area that provide housing, health resources, education programs, scholarships, legal services, nutrition assistance and more to homeless and at-risk LGBTQ youth. It was presented in partnership with the L.A. LGBT Youth Advocates Coalition and PFLAG Los Angeles. I have also been part of the planning and funding of L.A.'s LGBTQ+ heritage months, an organizer and sponsor of LGBTQ+ youth programs at City Hall and much more.

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

YES – I'm proud to have contributed to, fundraised, advised, campaigned and supported a great many LGBTQ+ candidates nationwide over the years. I've also been a supporter of organizations that help elect members of our community, including EQCA, the Victory Fund, HONOR PAC and the first such organization ever: the Municipal Elections Committee of Los Angeles (MECLA).

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

For this race I have been endorsed thus far by - Equality California (EQCA), California Legislative LGBTQ Caucus, Stonewall LA Democratic Club, and San Diego Democrats for Equality. In terms of openly LGBTQ elected officials a few names are: Rep. Mark Takano (D-41), State Sen. John Laird, Assemblymember Susan Talamantes Eggman(D-Stockton) and Assemblymember Chris Ward (D-San Diego).

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

As an openly gay man, a husband, and, most recently as the father of twins, it is important to me that we continue to fight for full equality for LGBTQ+ individuals and create a more inclusive world for all our families.

I have been a strong proponent of contracting equity. In 2020, my office released a report that found that while 6,000 businesses are certified to contract with the City, only a fraction of small businesses and companies owned by women, people of color and LGBTQ+ people end up doing business with Los Angeles. I advocated for the City to do more to harness its purchasing power to build an inclusive contracting community that fosters improved economic outcomes for Los Angeles businesses, including LGBTQ+ owned businesses.

When California (and all of us) contracts, spends and invests, it must be with an eye for equality and equity. I will work to make sure these values are reflected in all our spending and investment policies. Discrimination has no place anywhere in California and our investments - as residents and as a government - should reflect that.

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

It is my commitment to accountability, opportunity, and equity that I bring as a candidate for State Controller. With the 5th largest economy in the world and an annual budget of more than a quarter-trillion dollars, California needs a Controller not only with the experience and credibility to safeguard the people's dollars, but the commitment to make sure California is using its resources to do the most good for our diverse communities. As State Controller, I want to use the power of that office to break down injustice and systemic discrimination that exists throughout California and to build a more equitable future for all our residents. We have much to do, including a much better job addressing housing insecurity for the LGBTQ+ community. Among unhoused youth, up to 40% identify as LGBTQI+. We need to make sure California is spending its resources to ensure LGBTQI+ individuals have access to safe, supportive housing.

As the only candidate that has been and is a Controller - I am uniquely qualified to get this done. I look forward to continuing my work to address the needs of the LGBTQ+ community and to build a better future for our community and all Californians.

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