Required Information

Full Name: Fiona Ma

Office Sought: State Board of Equalization – District 2

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Are you a member of the Harvey Milk Club? No

If so, when did you first join?

Are you lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or queer (LGBTQ)? No

PART 1: Short-Answer Questionnaire

1) Please describe your qualifications for the position you seek (include your key issues/ priorities if elected and what distinguishes you from other candidates seeking the same job), plus anything else that you'd like our members to know about you and your candidacy.

I first became interested in politics as a small business owner in 1994 and a Certified Public Accountant advocating on behalf of small businesses. I served as a Commissioner on the San Francisco Assessment Appeals Board and heard property tax appeal cases, got elected to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors and then the California State Assembly where I sponsored many tax related bills that helped small business thrive and kept California businesses competitive with other states. I hold a B.S. in Accounting, an M.S. in Taxation, and an MBA and have been licensed in California as a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) since 1992.

Each year California fails to collect eight billion dollars from the underground economy. This lack of revenue hurts hard-working Californians by shortchanging vital public service programs and hurting our economic recovery. I will put to use my years auditing companies and my understanding of how to read and interpret financial statements to cull out fraud and abuse that costs California billions.

I have spent the past year and half meeting with constituents in my SBOE district and garnered many elected officials endorsements and very diverse citizen endorsements. Please see updated list on my website at www.FionaMa.com. Last weekend, I got the overwhelming endorsement of the California Democratic Party. This is significant since this seat leans "Democrat" by double digits. I believe my background (education, professional, public servant) is uniquely suited to this office. On an aside, if elected, I would only be the second CPA ever to serve in this position since the inception of the SBOE in 1879.

I am qualified, hardworking, proven and practical and will use my professional, public/private, and legislative experience to make state government more responsive, easier to access and protective of California taxpayer's money. My goal is to help working families thrive in our golden state, by ensuring that California has a fair and efficient tax collection system

2)What are three issues/pieces of legislation that you would champion if elected to office?

The SBOE is more of a tax administrative agency. Thus my platforms are the 3 "F's: "Friendly" tax agency that treats taxpayers who call in or get audited with respect and dignity; "Fairness" – aggressively go after the tax cheats who are not paying about $8 billion in taxes; and "Fix" problems administratively or legislatively to make it easier for individuals and companies to do business in California.

3)How have you been an advocate for the LGBTQ community? Please provide specific examples. **Please see attached**.

4)LGBTQ elders face a number of challenges, including finding affordable housing, accessing health care and a general lack of services. Older people living with HIV face similar challenges. If you were elected, what would you do to help address these challenges? **I have already been working with the Affordable Housing Industry re proposed legislation to ensure that affordable housing units remain "affordable" throughout the building's lifespan and will continue to work in this affordable housing arena during my time on the SBOE. Living with a pre existing condition (I have been the Honorary Chair and Spokesperson for Hep B Free campaign since 2007), I am keenly aware of rising insurance costs and people getting kicked off of insurance for pre existing and chronic conditions. I carried several bills (all can be found on my website at www.fionama.com)**

during my time in the Assembly to cap out-of-pocket prescription costs. I spoke at many press conferences on the need for ACA and support of this initiative on so many levels. And I have been a vocal and early supporter of universal healthcare.

5) Similarly, LGBTQ youth face challenges including bullying and a high rate of homelessness if ostracized by their families. If you are elected, what would you do to help these youth?

During my time in the Assembly, I co authored ALL of the "bullying" bills. Re homelessness, I do believe there should be affordable housing for LGBTQ youth who need a safe place to live with appropriate services on site. I have been working with the foster youth advocates over the past 10+ years to build a place for foster youth who term out after 18 years of age. Happily, the Booker T. Washington Community Service Center is finally coming to fruition thanks to a recent $500K donation from the John Burton Foundation.

The SBOE annually collects $52.5 billion in taxes and fees to support state and local government services. This represents about 35-45% of the California's total revenues, some of which funds needed programs and services for the LGBTQ community. Thus it is important to elect SBOE members who know where to look for the tax cheats and who/which industries are not paying their fair share of taxes owed to the State.

6) Supervised injection facilities or drug consumption facilities have been shown to reduce new HIV and hepatitis infections, overdose deaths, and public drug use, and to increase linkage to medical care and substance use treatment and save money, yet they remain controversial and illegal. If you are elected, what would you do to advocate for supervised injection sites?

I will continue to support programs, services and medical care treatment that is supported by and improving the quality of life of various affected communities.

7) Do you support repeal or reform of the Ellis Act? What would you do to fight for housing affordability?

Yes I support the Ellis Act and I also support San Francisco's provision to compensate tenants if they are displaced by a landlord.

8) What kind of reform of Prop 13 is needed, if any? Would you support a split-roll

property tax system?

I think the loophole in Proposition 13 should be closed to reflect legitimate transfers of interests and thus reassessment of property. Private equity buyouts, corporate purchases and bank mergers can be structured to avoid the reassessment which is not right.

9) What is your position on online voting? If you support, what would you do to implement a secure online voting system?

I support the veterans efforts at the California Democratic Party Veteran's Caucus to implement online voting since many veterans are away on the front line and their votes are not being counted yet they are the ones who are most directly fighting for Democracy. If they can figure out how to securitize this system, so should states.

PART 2: Yes/No Questionnaire

Please check **Yes** or **No** for each question.

GENERAL	YES	NO
1. Are you registered to vote as a Democrat?	X	
1. Have you ever run for elected office before?	X	
1. Do you have a campaign consultant? If so, who: Kelly Calkin	X	
1. Have you ever sought the Milk Club endorsement in the past?	X	

LGBTQ ISSUES

1. Do you fully support same-sex marriage equality?	X	
1. Do you support anti-discrimination laws for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people?	X	
1. Do you support including full transgender health benefits in Covered California health plans?	X	
1. Do you support public funding for employment development for transgender individuals?	X	

TENANT, HOUSING, AND DEVELOPMENT ISSUES

1. Do you support rent control?	X	
1. Have you ever been involved as homeowner, buyer or agent in the eviction of a tenant?		X

RACIAL AND IMMIGRATION JUSTICE ISSUES

1. Do you support driver's licenses for undocumented persons?	X	
1. Do you support localities allowing noncitizens to vote in local elections, including but not limited to school board?		X
1. Do you support the protection of due process for immigrant youth accused of crime?	X	
1. Do you support the DREAM Act? Co-Author	X	

SOCIAL JUSTICE, HEALTH, NIGHTLIFE AND LABOR ISSUES	YES	NO
1. Do you support capital punishment (death penalty)?	X	
1. Do you support the decriminalization of sex work?	X	
1. Did you support Prop 35 in November 2012? Early endorser	X	
1. Did you support Sen. Leno's 2013 bill (or at least the concept) to allow localities to allow bars to serve liquor until 4 AM?	X	
1. Do you support reducing simple drug possession from a felony to a misdemeanor?	X	
1. Do you support the legalization, taxation, and regulation of adult recreational use of marijuana? I fully support the decriminalization of marijuana as long as it's properly taxed and regulated.		
1. Do you support a woman's right to choose and access a safe and legal abortion under all circumstances?	X	
1. Have you ever crossed a union picket line or violated a union boycott?		X
1. Do you support the Domestic Workers' Bill of Rights? Co-author	X	

EDUCATION AND YOUTH ISSUES

1. Did you support AB 1266 (rights for transgender students)?	X	
1. Do you support the Common Core education standards?	X	
1. Do you support lowering the threshold to pass a local parcel tax for education to 55%?	X	

ENVIRONMENTAL AND TRANSPORTATION ISSUES

1. Do you support California's high speed rail plans? Led effort to pass	X	
1. Do you support Governor Brown's Delta Tunnels plan? I was actively involved in passing the legislative water bond in 2010 and I support this plan and hope it stays on the ballot in 2014. Water is crucial to our lives and our agriculture economy in CA.		