

From: **Nicole Catangay**  
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Subject: Personal Statement  
To: <[VotersFirstAct@crc.ca.gov](mailto:VotersFirstAct@crc.ca.gov)>

To whom it may concern,

I live as a student in Berkeley, CA. It is generally a BIPOC community with a history of resistance and community organizing. The Disability Movement was started in Berkeley, as well as many other prominent social justice movements. It is important to note that the indigenous Ohlone people and the unhoused population in Berkeley have suffered the effects of the institution's contributions to gentrifying the area.

I also am a lifelong resident of Long Beach, CA. My community in North Long Beach mainly consists of Latinx, Chicanx, and Black residents. Growing up near 2 major freeways severely impacted the health of my family and our access to green space. The Los Angeles River cuts right through our community. This is very different from the White demographic in Downtown/East Long Beach. There is also a thriving Cambodian community in Long Beach. However, the presence of neighborhood oil drilling and the effects of the port transportation in all neighborhoods causes major health issues to all residents over time.

Best,  
Nicole Catangay