

# San Diego Dems for Equality Platform Positions

This club affirms our:

## **I. Equal Rights for All LGBTQIAP2+\*, BIPOC\*, QTPOC\*, Women, and those with Disabilities**

### **a. Anti-Discrimination Platform Initiatives**

Support for candidates and legislation which actively promote policies which prohibit discrimination, harassment, and bullying based on real or perceived race, color, ethnicity, religion, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, age, sex, marital status and gender identity or gender expression in employment, housing, education, and public services.

Support for candidates and legislation which actively support conducting government or private business only with public or private organizations which do not discriminate against people on the basis of real or perceived race, color, ethnicity, religion, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, age, sex, marital status, and gender identity or gender expression.

Support for candidates and legislation which actively promote and emphasize the need for equitable representation in public office for women, and LGBTQIAP2+, BIPOC, QTPOC, and those with disabilities at local, state, and federal levels.

Support for candidates and legislation which actively support amending the U.S. Constitution to provide that equal rights shall not be abridged or denied by any governmental body on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity.

Support for candidates and legislation which actively affirm the right of individuals to use facilities (including restrooms) consistent with their gender identity.

Support for candidates and legislation that actively affirm the rights of transgender/non-binary individuals to be protected under the anti-discrimination provisions of Title VII in employment and students to Title IX protections, including but not limited to participation in sports according to their identity.

### **b. Separation of Church and State**

Support for candidates that believe that the separation of religion and government is constitutionally mandated.

Support for candidates and legislation that opposes school-sponsored prayer in public schools.

### **c. Recognition of Marriage Equality**

Support for candidates and legislation which actively support marriage equality.

Support for candidates and legislation which actively support extending the same benefits to all spouses, partners, and dependents. This includes hospital visitation, inheritance and community property rights, health insurance, family medical leave, and death benefits.

Support for candidates and legislation which actively support equal immigration opportunities for all people without regard to real or perceived race, color, ethnicity, religion or lack thereof, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression or HIV/AIDS status.

#### **d. Parental Rights**

Support for candidates and legislation which actively support equal treatment for LGBTQIAP2+, BIPOC, QTPOC, those with disabilities, and regardless of marital status in adoption, fostering, parenting, and child custody.

#### **e. Military Service**

Support for candidates and legislation which actively support permitting transgender/non-binary people to serve openly in the US armed forces.

Support for candidates and legislation which actively support women's ability to serve in the military in all capacities.

Support for candidates and legislation which actively support equality in the armed forces and veterans' groups for women, LGBTQIAP2+, and transgender veterans and active service members, including equal access to appropriate medical care and support.

## **II. Equity and Inclusion**

### **a. Race and Equity**

Support for candidates and legislation which actively work through an intersectional\* racial equity lens to make a lasting difference for our communities: to dismantle systemic, institutional, and structural racism:

- Support the dismantling of the current for-profit prison system
- Support abolishing bail
- Support reallocation of police budgets to fund specialists for mental health and homeless intervention
- Support decriminalization of drugs in favor of drug rehabilitation systems
- Support restorative justice practices and programs
- Support abolishing the death penalty

Support for candidates and legislation which actively support affirmative action programs and reparations including wrap around services.

Support for candidates and legislation which actively support humane immigration policy, including but not limited to granting citizenship to long term residents and honoring our status as a nation which embraces those seeking asylum

Support for candidates and legislation which actively oppose any incentivization for incarceration, including immigration based incarceration, including but not limited to for-profit prisons and detainment centers, and unpaid or underpaid prisoner labor.

Support for candidates who pledge to hire and/or appoint people into leadership roles who reflect diverse backgrounds including LGBTQIAP2+, BIPOC, QTPOC, youth, elders, women, and those with disabilities.

**b. Labor**

Support for candidates and legislation which actively support equivalent wages for jobs requiring similar education, skills, and experience.

Support for candidates and legislation which actively support all workers' rights to organize without interference into unions to reach fair collective bargaining agreements with employers.

Support for candidates and legislation which actively support requiring "livable wages" (defined as the minimum wages necessary to meet basic needs to live in a particular area) to be paid to all workers.

**c. Sex and Gender Identity within the Criminal Justice System**

Support for candidates and legislation which actively support allowing transgender, intersex, and gender non-conforming people to self-identify in their interactions with law enforcement, and be documented and treated according to their needs.

Support for candidates and legislation which actively support providing easy access to court and documentation services to allow transgender, intersex, and gender non-conforming people to identify as they choose without delays in service.

Support for candidates and legislation which actively support the right of transgender/non-binary persons to be housed in jails and prisons appropriate for their gender identity, rather than their biological sex- and to have access to protective housing that is not solitary confinement.

Support for candidates and legislation which actively recognize the legitimacy of consensual sex work and sex workers and actively support the decriminalization thereof.

**d. LGBTQIAP2+ , BIPOC, QTPOC Issues in Public Education**

Support for candidates and legislation which actively support providing public school health clinics, classes, and counseling services that provide condoms and other protection methods, and that teach students how to use them to protect themselves against HIV/AIDS, sexually

transmitted diseases, and unplanned pregnancies.

Support for candidates and legislation which actively support counseling programs in public schools that promote self-esteem and self-acceptance for LGBTQIAP2+, non-binary, and gender fluid students and that value all their experiences.

Support for candidates and legislation which actively support public school curricula that acknowledge the contributions by LGBTQIAP2+, BIPOC, QTPOC, disabled, and women to history, politics and culture.

Support for candidates and legislation which actively support public school curricula and teacher/staff training that teach awareness of LGBTQIAP2+ issues, including sensitivity towards sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression, and cultural intersectionality.

### **III. Health and Wellbeing**

#### **a. Public Health Issues**

Support for candidates and legislation which actively support creating a comprehensive health care program available to all persons regardless of financial status, age, disability, immigration status or pre-existing medical condition.

Support for candidates and legislation which actively support allowing a mentally competent terminally ill patient the right to die with dignity at the time of their choosing and the legal protection of qualified physicians to assist with that right.

Support for candidates and legislation which actively support enacting policy and programs that provide wraparound services and assistance to those who are unsheltered with a special focus on LGBTQIAP2+ youth, veterans, and seniors.

#### **b. HIV/AIDS Issues**

Support for candidates and legislation which actively support continued funding of the federal Ryan White CARE Act, which provides monies for medical treatment and social services for people with HIV/AIDS, at the same percentage of this fiscal year's budget or higher.

Support for candidates and legislation which actively support public funding for HIV/AIDS/STI-prevention education programs, and PrEP/PEP\* distribution programs that prevent HIV/AIDS/STI transmission.

Support for candidates and legislation which actively support the exchange of clean needles and syringes without a medical prescription as a means of stopping the spread of HIV/AIDS and other diseases, and providing support services for rehabilitation from drug dependencies.

#### **c. Gender and Reproductive Justice**

Support for candidates and legislation which actively support a person's right to reproductive health decisions for the entirety of their pregnancy, and autonomy of choice throughout their fertile years.

Support for candidates and legislation which actively support guaranteed access and cost-free abortions, whether through insurance or government funding, including from military health care providers.

Support for candidates and legislation which actively support pregnant people having unlimited access to information about all their legal medical options, including abortion.

Support for candidates and legislation which actively support the U.S. Government funding of international family-planning efforts that include counseling pregnant people about abortion as a possible option.

Support candidates and legislation which actively support guaranteed access and cost-free birth control and menstrual products for everyone.

Support for candidates and legislation which actively oppose laws that require people to notify their spouses in order to obtain an abortion.

Support for candidates and legislation which actively oppose laws that require waiting periods or the presentation of irrelevant/inaccurate medical information (e.g. ultrasounds, "fetal pain" lectures) in order to obtain an abortion.

Support for candidates and legislation which actively oppose laws that require minors to notify their parents in order to obtain an abortion or other birth control items.

Support for candidates and legislation which actively oppose laws that prohibit or restrict access to gender affirming surgery, including for minors.

#### **d. Mental Health**

Support candidates and legislation that actively support the decriminalization and de-stigmatization of mental health issues.

Support candidates and legislation that actively support the implementation of full medical coverage for mental health treatment for adults and minors.

Support candidates and legislation that actively support comprehensive mental health and suicide prevention programs, as well as increased support and funding for such programs.

### \*\*\* GLOSSARY \*\*\*

**LGBTQIAP2+** - Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning, Intersex, Asexual, Pansexual, Two-Spirit, Plus

- **Lesbian** - Women who experience sexual, romantic, physical, and/or spiritual attraction to other women.
- **Gay** - 1. Used in some cultural settings to represent men who are attracted to men in a romantic, erotic and/or emotional sense. 2. An umbrella term for sexual orientations that fall outside of straight/heterosexual.
- **Bisexual** - A person who experiences sexual, romantic, physical, and/or spiritual attraction to people of their own gender as well as other genders, not necessarily at the same time, in the same way, or to the same degree.
- **Transgender** - A person who lives as a member of a gender other than that expected based on sex or gender assigned at birth. Sexual orientation varies and is not dependent on gender identity.
- **Queer** - This term is sometimes used as a sexual orientation label or gender identity label used to denote a non-heterosexual or cisgender identity without have to define specifics. - **Questioning** - An individual who is unsure of and/or exploring their gender identity and/or sexual orientation.
- **Intersex** - Individual(s) born with the condition of having physical sex markers (genitals, hormones, gonads, or chromosomes) that are neither clearly male nor female. Intersex people are sometimes defined as having "ambiguous" genitalia.
- **Asexual** - A person who does not experience sexual attraction. They may or may not experience emotional, physical, or romantic attraction. Asexuality differs from celibacy in that it is a sexual orientation, not a choice.
- **Pansexual** - A person who has the potential to be attracted to all or many gender identities and expressions.
- **Two-Spirit (2)** - – A Native American term for people who blend the masculine and the feminine. It is commonly used to describe individuals who historically crossed gender. It is often used by contemporary LGBTQIA Native American people to describe themselves.
- **Plus (+)** - Any additional identities or sexualities not listed above.

**BIPOC** - Black, Indigenous, People of Color

**QTPOC** - Queer, Trans, People of Color

**Intersectional(ity)**- The interconnected nature of social categorizations such as race, class, and gender as they apply to a given individual or group, regarded as creating overlapping and interdependent systems of discrimination or disadvantage.

**PrEP/PEP** - Prophylaxis means "treatment or actions taken to prevent a disease." PrEP is a treatment plan to prevent HIV before a person is exposed while PEP is a treatment plan for after a person is exposed.