

Lambda Independent Democrats of Brooklyn

2018 Candidate Questionnaire

Timestamp

Campaign Name Anthony Beckford For State Assembly

Office Being Sought NYS Assembly

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PART I

1. Have you ever held public or political office? Please provide office/dates.

No, I have not.

2. If (re)elected, please describe the three programs/activities you would select as priorities for new, additional or re-programmed public funding.

a.

b.

c.

3. (For incumbent legislators): Please state the bill number, title and status of each measure you've drafted/introduced (not merely cosponsored) in your current term (add additional sheets if necessary).

4. Do you now support or have you ever supported an openly LGBTQ candidate for public or party office? Yes I have. I supported Marc Fliedner for District Attorney and City Council Speaker Corey Johnson.

5. Will you seek support for your candidacy from any other political party or parties? If so, please provide detail.

Yes, I will. I will seek support from the Green Party & Liberal Party.

6. What endorsements have you received to date?

I have received endorsements from Brooklyn Residents Against Gentrification, Caribbean Unity Alliance, True Freedom Political Club and the Green Party of Brooklyn. I am awaiting decisions from four other entities.

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7. If you receive the endorsement of Lambda Independent Democrats of Brooklyn, do you agree to identify the club using its FULL name on all literature where you list endorsements? *Yes, I do agree to identify the club using its full name on all literature where I list endorsements*

PART II

Please state your position (SUPPORT or OPPOSE) on each of the following FEDERAL bills or issues (House bills are listed; most have a companion Senate bill). If you OPPOSE, please explain your position in each such instance.

1. H.R. 2282: Equality Act <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr2282>
Support
2. H.R. 2640: Every Child Deserves a Family Act
<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr2640>
Support
3. H.R. 2498: Freedom from Discrimination in Credit Act
<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr2498>
Support
4. H.R. 2491: Global Respect Act
<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr2491>
Support
5. H.R. 1739: REPEAL HIV Discrimination Act
<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr1739>
Support
6. H.R. 1516: Healthy Families Act
<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr1516>
Support
7. H.R. 5339: Runaway and Homeless Youth and Trafficking Prevention Act
<https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/5339/text/ih?overview=closed&format=xml>
Support
8. H.R. 1957: Safe Schools Improvement Act
<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr1957>
Support
9. H.R. 2151: Tyler Clementi Higher Education Anti-Harassment Act
<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr2151>
Support

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10. H.R. 1515: Juror Non-Discrimination Act

<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr1515>

Support

11. H.R. 3602: Real Education for Healthy Youth Act

<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr3602>

Support

12. H.R. 5374: Student Non-Discrimination Act

<https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/5374>

Support

13. H.R. 15: Raise the Wage Act <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/15/all-info>

Support

14. Do you support dramatic investments to reduce the cost of college at public institutions, such as the College for All Act of 2017 or the Debt-Free College Act of 2018, and legislation to reduce student loan debt, such as the Bank on Students Emergency Loan Refinancing Act? Support

15. Legislation and other actions to increase federal resources to help address the housing affordability and transportation crisis in New York City?

Support

16. A federal constitutional amendment to overturn the Supreme Court's *Citizens United* decision.

Support

17. A comprehensive U.S. immigration reform bill that includes a reasonable path to citizenship for undocumented migrants presently residing in the U.S., as well as: Support

a. No funding for a wall at the Mexico-U.S. border. Support

b. A path to citizenship for DACA recipients, their parents, and those eligible for DACA but who failed to apply. Support

c. Ensuring the continuation of family reunification, the process by which green card holders or legal U.S. residents may sponsor a family member for immigration to the United States (<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/immigrate/family-immigration/family-based-immigrant-visas.html>). Support

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d. **Maintaining the Diversity Visa Lottery:** <https://www.us-immigration.com/greencard/Green-Card-Lottery.html>. *Support*

18. The continuation and independence of Special Counsel Robert Mueller's investigation of Russian interference in the 2016 U.S. elections. *Support*

19. The submission of an impeachment resolution against President Trump (and/or Vice President Pence) in the U.S. House or the passage of a resolution authorizing an inquiry that may lead to an impeachment resolution. *Support*

PART III

Please state your position (SUPPORT or OPPOSE) on each of the following NYS bills or issues. If you OPPOSE, please explain your position in each such instance.

- 1. Gender Expression Non-Discrimination Act (S502:** <https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/bills/2017/S502>), which has been repeatedly passed by the NYS Assembly, to prohibit discrimination based on gender identity and gender expression. *Support*
- 2. Prohibit licensed mental health professionals from performing conversion therapy techniques upon LGBT minors, which has been passed by the NYS Assembly (S263:** <https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/bills/2017/S263>). *Support*
- 3. The Child-Parent Security Act (S17A:** <https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/bills/2017/S17>), which would repeal New York State's ban on paid gestational surrogacy and provide comprehensive legal protections for New Yorkers building their families. *Support*
- 4. Legalization of the adult possession, use, and sale of marijuana in New York State (Marijuana Regulation and Taxation Act (S3040B and A3506B)).** *Support*
- 5. The New York State DREAM Act (A.9605), which would permit undocumented students who meet in-state tuition requirements to access state financial aid and scholarships for higher education.** *Support*

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6. Full marriage equality for same-sex couples (all rights and privileges under federal and state law as afforded to opposite-sex married couples). *Support*
7. Denying religious institutions the use of New York City public school buildings for worship services. *Support*
8. Increased funding (capital and operating expenses) for both emergency shelter beds and transitional beds for homeless youth, a huge percentage of whom are LGBT. *Support*
9. Funding (capital and operating) for culturally competent senior housing built and operated to specifically meet the needs of LGBT seniors. Many LGBT seniors experience harassment and homophobia in senior facilities, forcing them to choose between supportive services and going back into the closet. *Support*
10. The NYS Blueprint to end the HIV/AIDS epidemic in NYS by 2020 (https://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/aids/ending_the_epidemic/). *Support*

PART IV: DEMOCRATS TAKING CHARGE

1. State THREE concrete actions you're taking to ensure that Democrats win in November and take control of the U.S. House and/or U.S. Senate.

- a. Promoting various Democrat candidates.
- b. Working with grassroots organizations to provide support.
- c. Speaking out against their GOP opponents.

2. Presuming Democrats take control of one chamber of Congress, what three actions will you take to advance economic security and opportunity, protect the environment, strengthen consumer protections and strengthen regulation on financial institutions, and advance access to affordable health care (such as single payer, medicare buy-in, a public option, etc).

- a. educate our communities more on these issues and get them involved.
- b. Organize community members and organizations to rally and lobby on these issues.
- c. as a state Assembly member, I would be able to use the platform to advocate.

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3. State **THREE** concrete actions you're taking to ensure that Democrats win in November and take control of the NYS Senate.

- a. Spreading the word about candidates and their plat forms.
- b. have been attending political club meetings and suggesting candidates for them to back
- c. have been talking to the community about the importance of keeping the GOP out of office.

4.

STATE SENATE CANDIDATES:

If you're (re)elected to the NYS Senate, do you unequivocally commit for the entirety of your term in office to:

- a. Caucus with the majority of Democrats in the chamber; and
- b. Not join the Independent Democratic Conference or any other "breakaway" faction of Democrats?

Circle one: YES NO

Federal AND State Candidates: Will you oppose for re-election any NY State Senator that is or has caucused with the IDC?

Circle one: YES NO

PART V: OTHER ISSUES

Please state your position (SUPPORT or OPPOSE) on each of the following issues. If you OPPOSE, please explain your position in each such instance.

1. Legislative efforts (federal/state/city) to expand funding for non-HIV LGBT health and human services. If support, please state which non-HIV service(s) you support and in what amount(s). *Support. non discriminatory housing; adequate healthcare and mental health services.*
2. A woman's unrestricted right to reproductive services, including abortion. Potential restrictions might include public funding (Medicaid, military/veterans benefits, etc.) for birth control and/or abortions, criminalizing late-term abortions, preventing the inclusion of reproductive/abortion services in state health insurance marketplaces or as part of the required essential health benefits under the Affordable Care Act, or parental consent for an unemancipated minor to obtain birth control or abortion services.

Support

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3. **The Black Lives Matter movement and goals** (<https://blacklivesmatter.com/about/>). *Support*
4. **The MeToo movement to end sexual violence** (<https://metoomvmt.org/>).
Support
5. **Sensible gun control, including universal criminal background checks for gun and ammunition purchases, limits on ammunition cartridge capacity, universal gun licensing and a national gun registry/database, prohibit the sale of high-capacity magazines, and an assault weapons ban, among other measures** (<http://www.gaysagainstguns.net/about>). *Support*
6. **Federal and state efforts to enact criminal justice reform and end mass incarceration, including sentencing and prison reforms (for example, HR 3356 Prison Reform and Redemption Act), bail reform** (<https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-cuomo-unveils-22nd-proposal-2018-state-state-restoring-fairness-new-yorks-criminal>), and the closure of Rikers Island. *Support*
7. **The elimination of the death penalty nationwide (NY's Court of Appeals effectively ended the death penalty in NYS in 2004).** *Support*
8. **Specific laws and resources to effectively address violence and hate crimes targeting the transgender community, particularly transgender and gender-nonconforming women of color** (<https://transequality.org/issues/anti-violence>).
Support
9. **The expansion of age-appropriate sex education in public schools, including non-judgmental discussion of sexual orientation/gender identity and the distribution of condoms to students, within the context of educating them about the transmission of HIV and other sexually transmitted infections with the goal of preventing transmission among school-aged children/adolescents.**
Support
10. **An initiative requiring New York City's public schools to develop and implement a curriculum on LGBT history.** *Support*
11. **The use of school vouchers to permit students to attend private schools paid with public school dollars.** *Support*
12. **Organized prayer in public schools.** *support*

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Candidate Signature

5/30/2018
Date