Hello candidates! Thank you for filling out the League's questionnaire. Please complete the questionnaire by 5pm on Sunday, December 1st if you wish to be considered for the League's endorsement. Please use this form rather than formatting it into a Word document or PDF. If you have any questions, you can contact us at TheLeagueSF@gmail.com.

Candidate Info

Need to see the other questions before you get started? Just fill this in. It's the only section with required answers.

Name *

Frances Hsieh

Campaign Contact *

Email Address *

**Tell Us About You**

**Why are you running for this office?**

As a current member of the DCCC, I have worked hard to deliver on campaign commitments that I made four years ago to the League: 1) instituting contribution limits, 2) Reforming the club chartering process, and 3) increasing the parties presence in communities of color.

I feel that I, working with my colleagues, have made progress on those items. We have added candidate contribution limits, required financial reporting by clubs, and instituted a process to screen contributions to the DCCC bylaws; we have made the club chartering process more transparent and have offered training and support for club leaders; and we have brought our meetings out into different communities, adding language and disability access policies, and printing our first ever Chinese and Spanish language slate cards.

I’m running because there is still work to do to make the Democratic party relevant to working class communities of color. I believe the party needs to do a better job of uplifting women and people of color as leaders and working in coalition with other progressive organizations in San Francisco. This is the type of work I have done for most of my political life and want to elevate that to the Party level in a more intentional and broader level.
What are the top three issues you will work on and how will you implement solutions in a timely manner?

1) Continue to endorse and elect progressive candidates to SF elected office and pass ballot measures that level the playing field for working and middle class communities of color and hold the SF DCCC to an anti-corporate, social justice frame. In order to be successful, we must improve our communication and collaboration with progressive allied organizations and marginalized communities. This is an ongoing effort that is not time bound.
2) Expand local party reform measures to the state level, particularly contribution limits, donation transparency measures, expanding language access especially in ADEM elections, and expanding access for diverse voices in the party. For contribution limits, Assemblymember Phil Ting has agreed to reintroduce a DCCC contribution limits bill and we are trying to build support among other regions to lobby for it. I have already started working with supportive members on key CDP committee to help with internal reform measures.
3) Increased voter registration, education, and engagement. We must improve engagement with grassroots political clubs and community organizations and provide financial support for outreach and education efforts. I have and will continue to raise funds for these priorities.

What three endorsements are you most proud of?

Sandra Lee Fewer, John Avalos, Tom Ammiano

What for-profit or non-profit boards do you serve on, including political organizations?

Local 21 SF Political Action Committee Chair, SF Labor Council delegate, SF Women’s Political Committee Advisory Board, SF DCCC Executive Board

What local and state commissions or policy bodies do you serve on?

Mayor’s Taskforce on Race, Equity, and Inclusion
Do you pledge to support San Francisco Employees' Retirement System (SFERS) fully divesting from fossil fuels within three years and holding SFERS accountable at the ballot if they do not divest?

- Yes
- No

Do you pledge to support San Francisco purchasing PG&E assets to create public power in San Francisco?

- Yes
- No

Do you pledge to support the closure of 850 Bryant, jails #3 and #4?

- Yes
- No

Do you pledge to vote to endorse only those candidates that support Abolishing ICE?

- Yes
- No
Do you pledge to vote to endorse only those candidates that support decarceral criminal justice reform?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Do you support the expansion of charter schools? Yes/No (Please explain your answer.)

No. The public has no oversight ability over charter schools, which take public money away from public schools, have no accountability for equal access to education, discriminate in their admissions policies, and do not provide livable wages and benefits for school staff and teachers.

Did you support SB 50 (Senator Wiener’s zoning bill) as written?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If not, what amendments would make you support SB 50?

I don’t believe there are amendments that could be made that would make me support SB 50, unless there is a change in the bill sponsor. I fundamentally disagree with Senator Wiener’s approach/perspective to land use, housing, and economic policy and who it benefits. Amendments cannot fix legislation that has fundamentally flawed framing. That being said, I would support something that links infrastructure development with housing and includes working class tenants and communities of color in development.
Do you pledge to endorse only candidates committed to ending homeless sweeps?

- Yes
- No

Do you support the City funding community land trusts?

- Yes
- No

Do you support congestion pricing for the downtown core?

- Yes
- No

Do you support and would you vote to endorse a Public Bank in San Francisco?

- Yes
- No

Do you pledge to vote to endorse only those candidates that support Medicare for All?

- Yes
- No
- Other: ..................................................
Do you pledge to only endorse those candidates that support a full repeal of the Ellis Act and Costa-Hawkins Rental Housing Act?

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No

Do you believe the number of real estate contributions to a candidate impacts their fitness as a progressive candidate?

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No

If Costa-Hawkins Rental Housing Act is repealed, would you work to enact vacancy control in San Francisco?

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No

Do you support a baseline percentage of 40% of affordable housing in developments when negotiating the number of housing units?

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No

Do you support requiring 100% affordable housing on public land?

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No
If not, under what circumstances would you support allowing a percentage or all market-rate housing on public land?

---

DCCC Policy

Do you support contribution limits for DCCC races?

- Yes
- No

What are your ideas to avoid a corporate takeover of the DCCC?

As we have seen in recent elections, a strong grassroots ground game can overcome massive corporate spending. However, the DCCC is also a down ticket race that voters are less informed about and voting can be more unpredictable, so I believe that it will be key to align the endorsements of trusted progressive organizations behind a slate of candidates that can inspire and speak to/identify with a diverse body of voters.

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Do you support limiting DCCC ex-officio member voting rights for endorsements?

- Yes
- No
Do you support banning elected politicians from running for DCCC?

- Yes
- No

Do you pledge not to resign your seat before the November 2020 endorsement vote?

- Yes
- No

If not, please explain why:

November 2020 Election

Do you pledge to vote to SOLE endorse Supervisor Sandra Lee Fewer in District 1?

- Yes
- No
Do you pledge to vote to SOLE endorse Supervisor Aaron Peskin in District 3?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Do you pledge to vote to SOLE endorse Supervisor Dean Preston in District 5?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Do you pledge to vote to not endorse Karim Salgado or Joel Engardio for Supervisor in District 7?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Do you pledge to vote to SOLE endorse Supervisor Hillary Ronen in District 9?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Do you pledge to vote to SOLE endorse Former Supervisor John Avalos in District 11?

☐ Yes

☐ No
Do you support restrictions on Prop 13 in the November 2020 and future elections?

- Yes
- No

Do you support the proposed commercial vacancy tax?

- Yes
- No

Do you support the Fair Elections charter amendment to prohibit mayoral appointments of candidates 90 days before an election?

- Yes
- No

---

March 2020 Election

Which candidate will you support in the March 2020 Presidential Primary?

This depends on candidates' performance coming out of early primaries, but my two top candidates are Elizabeth Warren and Bernie Sanders.
Do you support San Francisco Balanced Development Act which seeks to update 1986’s Prop M?”

- Yes
- No

Which candidate will you support for Congress in District 12?

- Agatha Bacelar
- Shahid Buttar
- Douglas Deitch
- Tom Gallagher
- Nancy Pelosi

Which candidate will you support for SF Superior Court Seat 1?

- Pang Va Ly
- Maria Evangelista

Which candidate will you support for SF Superior Court Seat 18?

- Dorothy Chou Proudfoot
- Michelle Tong
Which candidate will you support for SF Superior Court Seat 21?

- Kulvindar "Rani" Singh
- Carolyn Gold

November 2019 Election

Who did you support for District Attorney?

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<th>1st Choice</th>
<th>2nd Choice</th>
<th>3rd Choice</th>
<th>Unranked Endorsement</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Suzy Loftus</td>
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<td>Leif Dautch</td>
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<td>Nancy Tung</td>
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<td>Chesa Boudin</td>
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### Who did you Support for D5 Supervisor?

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<th>1st Choice</th>
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<tr>
<td>Dean Preston</td>
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<td>Vallie Brown</td>
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<td>Ryan Lam</td>
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<td>Nomvula O’Meara</td>
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### November 2018 Election

Need a refresher of what was on the ballot? Use this link: [https://sfelections.sfgov.org/november-6-2018-election-results-summary](https://sfelections.sfgov.org/november-6-2018-election-results-summary)

Who did you support for Board of Education? Please list all endorsements and ranking if any.

Personally, I supported Alison Collins, Gabriela Lopez, and Li Miao Lovett. At the DCCC, I voted for Alison Collins, Faauuga Moliga, and Lia Miao Lovett.

Who did you support for D2 Supervisor? Please list all endorsements and ranking if any.

Catherine Stefani
Who did you support for D4 Supervisor? Please list all endorsements and ranking if any.

Gordon Mar

Who did you support for D6 Supervisor? Please list all endorsements and ranking if any.

Matt Haney

Who did you support for D8 Supervisor? Please list all endorsements and ranking if any.

Rafael Mandelman

Who did you support for D10 Supervisor? Please list all endorsements and ranking if any.

Personally, I supported Shamann Walton #1 and Tony Kelly #2. At DCCC, I voted for Walton #1, No endorsement #2.

Did you support November 2018’s Prop C - "Our City Our Home" tax on gross receipts of businesses to fund homeless services?

- Yes
- No
June 2018 Election

Need a refresher of what was on the ballot? Use this link: [https://sfelections.sfgov.org/june-5-2018-election-results-summary](https://sfelections.sfgov.org/june-5-2018-election-results-summary)

Who did you support for Mayor in June 2018? Please list all endorsements and ranking if any.

Personally, I supported Jane Kim. At the DCCC, in the first round, I voted Jane Kim #1; in the second round, I voted Mark Leno #1, Jane Kim #2.

Did you support June 2018’s Prop C, Tax on Commercial Rent for Child Care & Early Education?

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No

Did you support June 2018’s Prop F “Tenant’s Right to Counsel”?

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No

Did you support June 2018’s Prop H “Arm Police With Tasers”?

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No

Past Elections
Did you support 2016’s Prop D "Let's Elect Our Elected Officials" to have special elections to fill vacancies on the Board of Supervisors?

○ Yes
○ No

Did you support 2014's Prop G, the anti-speculation tax?

○ Yes
○ No

Short Answer Questions

Short Answers Please

Do you identify as an activist?

○ Yes
○ No
If so, please describe specific accomplishments in your activism. What did you get done, and what was your role?

In electoral politics, I have been an activist supporting progressive candidates and ballot measures. In 2008, I was field staff on Carole Migden's re-election campaign for state senate and then ran NARAL's campaign against Proposition 4 (parental notification measure). Since 2008, I have served on kitchen cabinets providing strategic direction for candidates and ballot measures in nearly every election. In District 11, where I live, I have been active in community building and anti-gentrification work with non profit and community based organizations that largely represent working class people of color. In my union, Local 21, I have been on the volunteer organizing team to build membership in the wake of Janus, which has led to us maintaining a historic 90% membership. I've also been a longtime Board member of the San Francisco Women's Political Committee, committed to electing more women to public office and supporting policies to benefit children and families.

What communities do you feel you represent in SF and how do those communities hold you accountable?

Progressive communities of color in District 11, citywide, political engaged women's community, API communities, labor, LGBTQ families. These communities hold accountability through regular sessions of open and honest engagement and conversation.

Please list specific ways you have shown up for immigrants at risk of deportation.

I have participated in marches, rallies, and protests to shut down San Francisco's USCIS office. I have been at press conferences and actions at the Federal building. I have supported community efforts at the Board of Supervisors to create a Deportation Defense unit within the Public Defenders office and to increase funding for community based organizations providing legal and other support services for immigrants at risk of deportation.
Please list specific ways you have fought against racism and white supremacy.

I am a member of the Mayor’s Taskforce of Race, Equity, and Inclusion, which works less on fighting against racism and white supremacy, but serves as an avenue through which labor and community groups can work in coalition to shine a light on DHR and the Mayor’s lack of movement and commitment to equity and inclusion issues. I serve as one of the Local 21 representatives to SEIU 1021’s Erase Racism group, which works to identify and rectify racism in the City's labor relations. Within my union, I am a part of our Equity, Diversity, Inclusion Work Group which seeks to identify both ways to hold the City accountable to uphold the protections in our MOU and solutions to combat systemic racism as well as build a model for a working group that other locals in our union across the nation can use to engage membership and affect change in their regions.

Please give us some examples of situations you’ve encountered where gender and LGBTQ inequity was evident, and what you did or would do to address it?

I have a lifetime of experience inequities that have been either or both gender and LGBTQ based. Specific recent examples are around unequal employee benefits for City and County employees. I raised this issue with my union, which worked on these measures during contract negotiations to win changes for all City employees. There is still work to do as the City still has a number of policies around healthcare and benefit access that place different and additional hoops for coverage on same sexed couples and single women. I'm a member of Labor Management Groups and plan to raise this issue to change City policy either through administrative change or through our next round of contract bargaining. I am, by no means, an expert on all areas of gender and LGBTQ inequity and plan to continue to work with grassroots activists to identify areas of needed policy changes and work together on a pathway to pass those changes.
In the midst of a homelessness crisis, how can the City and County of San Francisco improve the effectiveness of our city’s homelessness and supportive housing services?

If the City has to start with not exacerbating the issue and focus on long term, multi-pronged approaches. Other than the subsidies that the City spends to keep people housed and the money to purchase or maintain affordable housing, the City's "solutions" are not effective because they are only temporary in nature to address those who are in greatest crisis. Once people become stabilized, they often get kicked out of a program - like at navigation centers, or what the City proposed to do with the Adult Residential Facility (ARF). We need long term solutions - every project on public land should consider 100% affordable housing as part of the mix because the development cost is lower on publicly owned parcels. Then, in order to keep people housed, we must increase funding for our small sites acquisition program. Both developments should include wrap around services to support residents and maintain stability. Services across multiple departments and agencies also need better coordination and data sharing to reduce barriers and access to services.

How would you expand checks and balances in regard to Mayoral appointments?

I have supported past efforts to split appointments to all City commissions, task forces, citizen advisory groups between the Mayor and Board of Supervisors. As for Mayoral appointments for vacancies in elected offices, there should be a system that allows for a "caretaker" appointments so that voters make the final call. Finally, there needs to be an oversight mechanism for Mayoral appointments of department heads. Some chartered commissions and departments require Board of Supervisor confirmations, however, most department heads serve at the pleasure of the mayor with no minimum qualification requirements. Many of our City's best policies get stymied because there is no public accountability mechanism for department heads that are charged with implementation of some of the City's most critical and progressive policies.

Do you work for the City and County of SF?

- [ ] Yes

- [ ] No
Are you a member of a union?

- Yes
- No

If so, how will you balance accountability to union leadership, workers, and constituents?

I don't believe these are separate things. As a leader in my union, I have focused on political education and identifying new leaders to help grow our union in a direction of better values alignment. With improved organizing and communication, there can be more agreement between these different constituency groups and less need to "balance" that accountability. It is also important to keep in mind that each of these groups is not monolithic and there may be many competing priorities internally. In such situations, I try to take into consideration which group will be most impacted by a decision or set of decisions as well as how much relative power or voice that constituency group has related to the issue at hand.

Last questions...we promise.

What do you do for fun in San Francisco?

My favorite relaxing activity is probably karaoke. Reading a good book with a potent potable runs a close second.
Why do you want the League of Pissed Off Voters’ endorsement?

I respect the consistency of values over the decade or so that I have been following the League’s endorsements. I value your opinion and would be truly honored to have your endorsement. Plus it’s my favorite voter guide in the City (and also the best written)!
I wanted to explain some of my answers about candidate endorsement and pledges because I have received a lot of questions about the most recent round of DCCC endorsements. For D5, I gave my personal endorsement to Vallie Brown. I have worked with her at the Board of Supervisors since her time as an aide to fight back against development, gentrification, and racial equity in District 5. However, as a member of the progressive faction that took the DCCC back from real estate influence, I knew that I could not vote to endorse her, which is why I abstained in that vote. I have a similar history with Suzy Loftus, having worked with her on police accountability and use of force while she was president of the SF Police Commission, which is why I voted for her #1. I was very impressed with Chesa's body of work and we align on a number of criminal justice reform issues, which is why I voted for him as my #2 choice. Due to this and other challenging endorsement process, the current DCCC members have pledged to each other that we will not make commitments on our votes for candidates prior to checking in as a group and with our allies. That is why I answered "no" on the candidate pledge issues. In addition, I do not support pledging sole endorsements without knowing the full candidate field - progressives fought hard to institute ranked choice voting and public financing as part of our efforts to reform and strengthen our democracy, because it allows multiple progressive candidates to run in the same race and support each other's candidacy (ie. Leno and Kim in 2018). However, my personal endorsements in the races listed are: District 1: yes, to Sandra #1 or whomever she supports; District 3: yes; District 5: yes to Dean #1; District 9: yes; District 11: hell yes. In the Superior Court races, I have not yet met all the candidates, but I'm supporting Maria Evangelista for Seat 1 and Michelle Tong for Seat 18. For other questions, I would like to raise my concerns that in a PG&E takeover that we make sure there is a just transition for workers, preferably to public sector jobs. For the decarceral reform question, although I support this in theory, I don't believe I can say "yes" when I endorsed and supported Suzy Loftus. For downtown congestion pricing, I want to make sure that we are not promoting regressive taxation - I believe there are current models that can be targeted to exempt low-income residents. For the question on banning elected officials from running, I'm running on a slate that includes elected officials... I also don't think it's democratic to ban anyone from running. The current reality is that progressives have a hard time competing with moderates on fundraising, therefore name recognition has been how we have been able to counter corporate influence. By instituting contribution limits and other ways to support grassroots candidates, I believe we can wean away the need to have elected officials run.

Is there anything else you want to tell us?
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