

Fresno Stonewall Democrats
Candidate Questionnaire



Thank you for your interest in Fresno Stonewall Democrats. In order to be considered for endorsement, candidates are required to complete this document. Do not make changes to any of the questions. Your answers are public information, and you must sign each page of this questionnaire, including the first.

Please attach your latest biography, all current endorsements, and any campaign literature, your website, and social media information. Complete, sign, and scan the questionnaire to fresnostonewalldemocrats@gmail.com or send via regular mail to: Fresno Stonewall Democrats, 2037 W. Bullard Ave #253, Fresno, CA, 93711.

PART I: CAMPAIGN INFORMATION

Name:	Bobby Bliatout
Occupation:	Nonprofit healthcare Executive
Employer:	Health and Life Organization, Inc. and Greater Fresno Health Organization
Office Sought:	CA 22nd Congressional
Campaign Committee ID Number:	C00708529
Name of Campaign Committee:	Bobby Bliatout for Congress
Campaign Address (including city, state, zip):	1525 E Shaw Ave #101, Fresno, CA 93710
Campaign Phone:	(559) 492-7247
Campaign Email:	bliatoutfor22@gmail.com
Campaign Website:	bobbybliatout.com
Campaign Manager:	Tom Dallas
Fundraising Consultant:	Jack Yao

PART II: CANDIDATE INFORMATION

Goals and Purposes of Fresno Stonewall Democrats

- ❖ Advance equal rights for all people regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity.
- ❖ Support public policies that advance lesbian, gay, bisexual, & transgender (LGBT+) equality at all levels of government.
- ❖ Elect qualified, openly LGBT+ people to public office as well as other Democratic Party candidates who support LGBT+ equality.
- ❖ Work within the Democratic Party to advance LGBT+ equality and full recognition of LGBT+ families.
- ❖ Educate the public at large about LGBT+ issues and concerns.
- ❖ Promote the Democratic Party's message of economic justice and social equality for all.

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1. Do you support the goals and purposes of Fresno Stonewall Democrats, as outlined above?

YES

2. Identify one goal from the list above and elaborate on how you have helped to achieve it.

The first goal is something I pursue with my involvement and passion for everyone to never be afraid and to stand proudly for who they are. It has led me to take strong stances and show support in many fashions for the LGBTQ+ community. For instance, I stood proudly with our local group, Trans E-motion to protest the disrespect of Fresno's police chief shown to Casey Haggard, a trans-woman, in which the chief would not use the correct pronouns and accepted name after she had been brutally stabbed in a hate crime. Also, as CEO of my business, I have made sure that we have sensitivity training for LGBTQ+ that is standard for everyone. Last year I expanded that training to specifically include training for Transgender issues. I'm proud that I have a health care provider that is transitioning this month and have had a manager transition last year. As an elected official, I will continue to support and proudly advocate for the LGBTQ+ community.

3. Are you a member of the Fresno Stonewall Democrat Club? If yes, when did you join? If no, do you plan to join?

YES October 2019

4. Have you been endorsed by Stonewall before? If yes, for what race?

NO

5. Have you endorsed a Republican over a Democrat for an elected partisan race? If yes, when and why?

NO

6. Are you openly LGBT+?

NO

7. Is any of your staff or key volunteers openly LGBT+?

YES

8. Would you support mandatory diversity training that includes LGBT+ issues for public and private employees?

YES

9. If your place of employment has diversity training, did you advocate for inclusion of LGBT+ issues? Why or Why not?

As mentioned before, as CEO of my business, I have made sure that we have sensitivity training for LGBT+ that is standard for everyone. Last year I expanded that training to specifically include training for Transgender issues.

10. Would you support mandatory diversity training for all law enforcement, including correctional peace officers, that includes LGBT+ issues?

YES

11. Do you support marriage equality laws permitting same-sex couples to marry under state law?

YES



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12. Do you support laws enabling individuals, such as property owners, businesses and government officials to disregard LGBT+ rights, such as marriage, employment or housing, on the basis of personal or religious belief exemptions?

NO

13. Do you support an age-appropriate public school curriculum that teaches awareness and sensitivity regarding sexual orientation and gender identity?

YES

14. Do you support protections for transgender, gender non-conforming and questioning youth, regardless of sexual orientation, from discrimination in schools, foster care, juvenile justice and other institutional settings, including personnel training and zero tolerance for disparagement by peers?

YES

15. Do you support requiring health insurance companies to cover medically necessary gender reassignment surgeries and follow-up care for individuals identifying as transgender?

YES

16. Do you support allowing transgender Americans to serve in the U.S. military?

YES

17. Do you support local funding for HIV/AIDS services, including, but not limited to, needle-exchange programs?

YES

18. Please describe your top goals, if elected to office.

My first goal is to restore the integrity of this office that Congressman Devin Nunes has done so much damage to. With every act that Devin Nunes takes to deceive and obstruct justice, he harms the trust residents who live and vote in the 22nd Congressional District have for the office and the institution.

In addition to restoring the integrity and trust in the office, I am concerned about the ongoing and growing health care crisis in our nation. The ACA is a good step in attempting to provide health coverage for everyone. But we must be willing to push through for universal health care coverage. As a non-profit health care executive, I spend my days working to ensure that we provide care to many individuals throughout the Central Valley who have no other access to a health care provider. I see each day how crippling the lack of access to quality and culturally aware care is to many of our family, friends and neighbors. Congress must take action to address the unfinished business on health care and I believe that my experience in this area makes me the best candidate to ensure that the views and needs of the Central Valley are represented.

In my experience as a health care executive, it has become important to ensure that every person, regardless of their resident status, have access to health care. This pursuit to provide everyone with health care insurance will be combined with ensuring that all persons are treating with dignity and respect, creating resolutions to forever prevent the concentration camps at the border and providing clear pathways for everyone to have residency.

Additionally, I am concerned about the growing climate crisis our world faces. As a former farmer, I believe that I can help bridge the political divide and bring us to consensus on the important decision we must take soon to stop an irreversible climate disaster.

Finally, as a father to school age children, I believe we must do more to address education in our nation. From access to early childhood education opportunities to free college we must invest in our

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future generations if we expect to be able to restore the American Dream for everyone. We must also discuss the crushing student loan debt we have placed on previous generations and find solutions to remove this inadvertent American Dream tax.

19. If you receive endorsement from Stonewall, will you list and disclose Stonewall as an endorsing organization?

YES

20. Please describe how your election to this office would benefit the LGBT+ community.

As I mentioned earlier, Devin Nunes has done more harm to our nation and the residents of the 22nd Congressional District than any other Member of Congress has in the past few decades. He has used his office to deceive and obstruct justice. He has caused many of our family, friends and neighbors to lose faith in our government and those we elect to represent us.

As part of this, communities such as the LGBT+, have been seriously harmed as Devin Nunes has allowed this current President to undermine the civility of our society and allow for the rise of hate across the nation. We must remove President Trump and Congressman Nunes in the 2020 elections and then take immediate action to restore the protections of equality and justice for all that have been attacked since 2016.

Finally, as the Congressman for our district, I am committed to building a diverse staff that reflects the diversity of our community. I believe to achieve this we must be committed to including LGBT+ staff members. I am also committed to clear paths of communication between myself and the LGBT+ community. I believe to maintain this communication that we must have structured listening sessions where I and my staff will meet quarterly with LGBT+ community members to provide information on the latest actions in Washington, DC and to receive comments and feedback on those actions and any other issues of concern.

PART III: SCHOOL BOARD SUPPLEMENTAL

21. Why are you running for school board? What is your background in education?
22. Does your district have an LGBT+ Task Force to address the needs and challenges facing LGBT+Q students, parents and employees in your district? If not, what do you plan to do to protect LGBT+ students, parents and employees?
23. Does your district have anti-bullying policies that include LGBT+ students?
24. What have you done to help make schools safer for LGBT+ students and staff, both classified and non-classified?
25. Do you support full implementation of the Fair Education Act, which requires California K-12 schools provide Fair, Accurate, Inclusive and Respectful representations of people with disabilities and people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender in history and social studies curriculum including recognition of Harvey Milk Day?



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Endorsements:

Organizations/Unions

California Democratic Party
Tulare County Stonewall Democrats
California SEIU
Communications Workers of America local 9408
Central Valley Leadership Roundtable

Electeds/Community Leaders*

Dolores Huerta
Jose Sigala, Mayor of Tulare
Greg Gomez, Mayor of Farmersville
Victor Lopez, Mayor of Orange Cove
Ruben Macareno, Farmersville City Council
Miguel Arias, Fresno City Council Member
Blong Xiong, Former Fresno City Council Member
Brandon Vang, Sanger Unified School Board Trustee
Daren Miller, Fresno County Board of Education, Trustee
John Leal, State Center Community College District Trustee
Dr. Perla Soria, Lindsay Unified School District #4 Trustee
Laura Soria Cortes, Lindsay City Council Member
Ivet Soria, Lindsay Hospital Board Member
Eliseo Gamino, Firebaugh Unified School District Trustee
Espinoza Sandoval, Kerman City Council Member
Jose Ornelas, San Joaquin City Council Member
Steve Ly, Mayor of Elk Grove
Dai Thao, Councilmember Ward 1- St. Paul, MN
Allen Warren, Sacramento City Councilmember

Biography:

The son of Hmong immigrants, Bobby Bliatout's family were American patriots long before they reached the United States. His family fought alongside American soldiers to combat communist totalitarianism during the Vietnam War. Bobby lives in Fresno with his wife Mouang and 14 year-old-son Bryce, while his eldest son Jarik is attending Fresno City College. Mouang works as a registered nurse and Bobby serves as the top executive at Health and Life Organization, Inc. (H.A.L.O.) and Greater Fresno Health Organization (GFHO).

Website:

Bobbybliatout.com

Facebook:

Facebook.com/Bliatoutfor22

Twitter:

@BobbyBliatout

*All titles for identification purposes only



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