

# Harvey Milk LGBTQ Democratic Club 2024 Endorsements Round 4 Questionnaire

## PART 1: Required Information

1. **Full name:** Mike Feuer
2. **Office running for:** House of Representatives, District 30
3. **Campaign consultant / primary point of contact:** John Shallman/ Skyler Johnson
4. **Campaign address:** 16633 Ventura Blvd., Encino, CA, 91436
5. **Campaign phone number:** 949-981-1472
6. **Campaign email address:** info@mikefeuerforcongress.com
7. **Campaign website:** <https://mikefeuerforcongress.com/>
8. **Political party:** Democrat
9. **Are or were you a member of the Harvey Milk LGBTQ Democratic Club? If so, please provide timeframe.**  
  
No, I have never been a member.
10. **Do you identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and / or queer (LGBTQ)?**  
No, I identify as straight but I am a strong LGBTQ+ ally.

## **PART 2: Short-Answer Questions**

*(Please limit responses to 150 words or less.)*

### **General Questions**

**1. Describe your qualifications for the office you are seeking. Feel free to add anything that you would like for our members to know about you and your candidacy.**

As the former LA City Attorney; Majority Policy Leader and Judiciary Committee Chair of the California Assembly; LA City Council member; and Executive Director of Bet Tzedek Legal Services (The House of Justice), I'm the only candidate who's successfully challenged Donald Trump, expanded voting rights in the face of Republican voter suppression, and has a record of proven national leadership on key issues, from successfully taking on Wall Street to preventing gun violence. As discussed below, I also have the strongest LGBTQ+ record.

In Congress, I'll continue my leadership against authoritarianism and to protect democracy. I was a leader in multiple lawsuits against Trump, including winning a national injunction preventing Trump from conditioning crime-fighting grants on police enforcing immigration law.

My national leadership to prevent gun violence includes co-founding and co-chairing America's first coalition of prosecutors to combat gun violence, leading efforts to disarm domestic abusers and increase school safety and writing first-in-the-nation gun violence prevention legislation.

I have the strongest record of protecting women's reproductive freedom as California's only official to enforce the Reproductive FACT Act—requiring crisis pregnancy centers to inform clients of full reproductive rights, including abortion—and led LA to enact legislation cracking down on centers' misrepresentations.

I've attached documents reflecting my public service achievements and the recognition I've received.

**2. Do you have key endorsements that you would like to share? Why are these endorsements meaningful to you?**

LA Mayor Karen Bass strongly endorses me, which is especially meaningful considering our partnership over the years.

I am endorsed by LGBTQ+ icons Sheila Kuehl and Jackie Goldberg, both of whom have worked side-by-side with me as lawmakers.

I'm also endorsed by multiple current and former members of Congress, including Julia Brownley, Mark DeSaulnier, Jimmy Gomez, Salud Carbajal, Howard Berman and Alan Lowenthal, as well as state legislators and local leaders.

Ann Reiss Lane, founder of Women Against Gun Violence, endorses my candidacy, a testament to my commitment to gun violence prevention.

I am supported by Democratic Clubs ranging from the SilverEchoFeliz Democracy Club to LA Democrats for Israel to the Muslim Democratic Club of Southern California.

**3. What are the most important short- and long-term solutions to your jurisdiction's homelessness? What can you do in your office to end homelessness?**

We need much more affordable housing, along with temporary housing with key social services and permanent supportive housing, and dramatic improvements to our mental health and substance abuse treatment systems. In Congress, I'll lead the fight to bring about federal-level changes to comprehensively address this crisis. This includes reforming outdated federal regulations that currently hamper local entities from delivering impactful mental health services. For example, I will fight to end the rule that precludes federal funding for mental health facilities with more than 16 beds. I will work to change the Medicaid rule that limits funding for substance abuse treatment to only ninety days. I will lead an effort to help unhoused veterans by changing the federal rule that counts veterans' benefits as income in calculating eligibility for subsidized housing, often requiring veterans to choose between accepting those key benefits for being housed. I will strive to expand federal housing vouchers, especially project-based vouchers that encourage the development of affordable housing.

I previously led an aggressive campaign against unlawful homeless patient dumping by medical facilities. I established the LA DOOR program, sending mobile teams including a nurse, mental health expert, substance abuse expert and formerly incarcerated caseworker to L.A. encampments to connect homeless substance abusers to vital services and housing. I led the creation of the HEART program, a series of clinics removing fines, warrants and citations that were impeding access to jobs, services and housing from the records of homeless people in exchange for establishing connections to key homeless services.

**4. What work have you done to address economic inequality and housing unaffordability in your jurisdiction? What will you do to address them if elected?**

Throughout my career, I've passionately advocated for economic equality, housing rights and affordability. At Bet Tzedek, I championed the rights of countless renters, protecting them from unlawful eviction and substandard housing conditions. On the L.A. City Council, I co-authored the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, a dedicated initiative for affordable housing. My leadership in the Mayor's Advisory Committee on the Fund and in implementing the City's rental unit inspection program further underscores my commitment to this issue. While in the State Assembly, alongside then-Attorney General Kamala Harris, I was instrumental in composing and passing the Homeowners Bill of Rights. And, as City Attorney, I took decisive action against landlords attempting to convert affordable, rent-stabilized apartments into short-term rentals.

The federal government has a pivotal role to play. By expanding bridge financing for affordable housing projects and introducing more financing avenues in transit-oriented zones, we can bolster affordable housing options. I support streamlining and reforming Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac financing programs to stimulate more affordable housing construction. Financial assistance for urban down payments and increased rental support for low-income households are also imperative. And I support dramatically increasing the renters' income tax credit, to help renters better afford their units and remain housed.

**5. Describe your work addressing racial injustice, economic inequity, and police brutality in your jurisdiction.**

My commitment to racial justice and economic inequality is deeply rooted in my experiences since junior high. I've tackled educational disparities, notably in *Williams v. California*, the most significant education equity case in California in a generation, for which I won the ACLU's Education Advocacy Award. As an L.A. City Council member, I launched a trust fund to expand recreational opportunities in underserved communities and authored the

creation of the Human Relations Department to grapple with issues of racial division. Throughout my career I've been a champion for access to justice, first as the leader of one of the nation's most significant free legal services programs, then, in the California Assembly, as the author of the Sargent Shriver Civil Counsel Act, expanding access to justice throughout California. As City Attorney, I created a program to address the trauma in children caused by gun violence. I created a wide array of criminal justice reform programs, alternatives to incarceration that engaged the broader community and dramatically reduced recidivism. I targeted wage theft that had victimized car wash workers, home health care workers, truck drivers and drivers of ride share companies.

In Congress, I will support the George Floyd Justice In Policing Act and push for investments in community-based programs that improve neighborhoods and reduce violence.

**6. How have you supported LGBTQ residents of your jurisdiction, and how will you continue to do so if elected?**

I have the strongest LGBTQ+ record of any candidate in this race. As LA City Attorney, I led my office to write the U.S. Supreme Court brief on behalf of 226 Mayors and the Conference of Mayors in support of marriage equality. I led efforts to oppose anti-LGBTQ+ discrimination, and prosecuted hate crimes targeting the LGBTQ+ community.

I won Equality California's Legislative Leadership Award (and 100% scores, year-in, year-out) for my broad LGBTQ+ legislative accomplishments in the California Assembly, supporting marriage equality (including organizing a brief in the California Supreme Court on behalf of 65 current and former state legislators opposing Prop 8), opposing Don't Ask, Don't Tell, safeguarding rights for same-sex couples confronting potential economic ruin when one member required nursing care and more.

As a lawyer in private practice, I advocated in the California Supreme Court for second-parent adoption, crucial for same-sex couples.

In Congress, I'll champion the Equality Act and fight for the trans community, upholding equal rights and ensuring the resources to tackle hate crimes.

**7. Describe your work addressing the climate crisis, and what specific steps you would take to confront climate change and environmental injustice if elected.**

I have an extensive record of leadership on climate-related issues. As Los Angeles City Attorney, I led a successful, groundbreaking lawsuit against the Southern California Gas Company over the nation's largest methane leak. I led my office to partner with jurisdictions throughout the nation in support of California's authority to impose automobile emissions standards (and against Trump's efforts to eliminate the state's authority to do so.) I did the same on Trump's efforts to roll back the Clean Power Rule. I have been a leader on water conservation (water use consumes 20% of California's energy), as the author of landmark state legislation. I have won top recognition from leading state and local environmental protection organizations.

In Congress, I will lead on moving the U.S. to 100% renewable energy as a strong advocate for the Green New Deal and on climate crisis strategies, including streamlining transmission siting, permitting and approval tied to renewable energy; dramatically reducing methane emissions; capturing carbon; expanding AmeriCorps, especially working with rural and urban communities on climate and resilience issues; promoting energy storage by ramping

up incentives for energy storage procurement; and advancing Transformative Climate Communities.

**8. Describe a time when you worked against an established power structure or entrenched authority to achieve a change. How was this change accomplished?**

There are numerous examples. When Trump took office, as L.A. City Attorney I led efforts to challenge him again and again. For instance, my office won a national injunction that defeated Trump's efforts to make LAPD complicit in civil immigration enforcement as a condition of receiving public safety grants.

I led my office to play key roles in challenging Trump's efforts to undermine the Census (through which his Administration sought to undercount undocumented residents and reduce political representation and federal resources) DACA Temporary Protected Status, California's auto emissions standards and a host of other issues.

I used the legal system to successfully take on Wall Street, as the first public lawyer to sue Wells Fargo over the fake accounts scandal, delivering major consumer reforms and holding the bank accountable.

And as the Executive Director of Bet Tzedek Legal Services, I constantly led our public interest law firm to successfully challenge major landlords over substandard housing, corporate interests over nursing home abuse and other issues.

**9. There are approximately 16,000 people living with HIV in San Francisco. 74% are over the age of 50. 1 in 6 are unstably housed, at risk of losing their housing, or homeless. In addition, the #1 cause of death among those with HIV in the city is overdose. The Republicans in Congress are looking to cut Ryan White funding by more than half. Given that San Francisco has a world-renowned reputation for providing the best HIV care in the country, what are your plans to address this?**

First, I will fight to ensure the reauthorization of the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program at a level at least as high as its current amount. The program has been a lifeline for its recipients. Second, I will work to ensure appropriate funding for the HOPWA program, which is crucial to preventing homelessness for people living with HIV/AIDS.

**10. See the Club's platform at [milkclub.org/platform](http://milkclub.org/platform). Any disagreements?**

# **Congressional Candidate Questions**

*(Please limit responses to 150 words or less.)*

## **1. Please explain why you are running for Congress.**

We live in an urgent moment, with no time to waste in tackling the major issues of our time: the climate crisis, defending our democracy, gun violence, protecting fundamental rights, economic inequality ...so much is on the line. Experience, innovation, leadership and practical skills to make big change have never mattered more. That's why I'm running: I've devoted my career to serving others and demonstrated that one person can make a major difference.

My politics are idealistic and aspirational. I believe public service should be inspiring. While many politicians talk, I believe in action—and refer you to the attached documents reflecting my key accomplishments and the recognition I've received for this work.

Nationally, my three top priorities include urgent action to address the climate crisis; defending democracy; and combating gun violence. Tackling homelessness and expanding affordable housing will be my priorities in connecting my work in Washington to what matters most in the 30th Congressional District.

## **2. Do you support Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez's Green New Deal? Why or why not?**

I strongly support the Green New Deal. We must move urgently to address our climate crisis and can do so while creating millions of new jobs in a green economy, pursuing environmental justice and lifting up disadvantaged communities.

## **3. Do you support Medicare For All? If so, how would you implement it?**

I was a co-author of single-payer legislation as a member of the California Assembly, I wholeheartedly support the principle that every American deserves access to quality healthcare, and I will join as a co-sponsor of the Medicare for All Act (H.R. 3421).

## **4. Do you support reducing military spending, and diverting these funds toward domestic programs? If so, how would you help implement this?**

There have been times in recent years when the enacted military budget actually exceeded the President's budget request. That makes no sense at a time of so much need here at home. I support right-sizing the Pentagon's budget, which requires using my oversight skills (the Assembly Speaker asked me to mentor my legislative colleagues on effective oversight strategies when I served as Assembly Majority Policy Leader) to scrutinize the gargantuan military budget to find ways to redirect excessive military funding to crucial domestic priorities, from tackling our existential climate crisis to expanding affordable housing and grappling with homelessness.

## **5. Do you support reducing America's military presence in other countries?**

We should address America's military presence around the world on a nation-by-nation basis, protecting our allies against aggression—reassuring them while deterring would-be aggressors--without engendering complacency by host countries and wasting scarce U.S. resources.

## **6. What would you do to improve America's current immigration policy?**

I am a strong supporter of a pathway to citizenship, DACA, the Temporary Protected Status program and other means of creating a humane and effective immigration policy. That policy is utterly broken now.

As City Attorney, I actively protected immigrant rights, ensuring local law enforcement prioritized community safety over immigration enforcement, and fought against fraud targeting immigrants. I was a leader in national efforts to defend DACA and Temporary Protected Status from Trump's efforts to undermine those programs. I also was a leader in the effort to prevent a citizenship question on the U.S. Census, and in the fight to prevent Trump from prematurely ending the Census (which was designed to reduce participation by immigrants).

**7. What steps will you take to ensure reproductive freedom?**

I am unequivocally pro-choice and committed to women's equality and autonomy through reproductive rights. As City Attorney, I was the only California official to enforce the Reproductive FACT Act, ensuring crisis pregnancy centers provided accurate information about reproductive choices, including abortion. I then led LA to enact legislation cracking down on misrepresentations by these centers. I also led LA to oppose abortion restrictions in the U.S. Supreme Court. And I have personally actively defended abortion clinics against groups like Operation Rescue, which were attempting to block women's access to needed reproductive health care.

In Congress, I will strongly support the Women's Health Protection Act, and fight not only to ensure the right to comprehensive reproductive health care, including abortion, but also to accessible contraception.

**8. Do you support raising the Federal Minimum wage? If so, to what amount?**

The federal minimum wage should be at least \$15. I would support an annual COLA.

**9. Is your campaign accepting any corporate or PAC money? If so, please list those sources.**

I have not accepted corporate PAC money. I received a donation from Karen Bass's Congressional PAC and Alan Lowenthal's Congressional PAC.

**10. What are your main strategies for meeting potential voters during this campaign?**

I will continue to hold meet/greet events throughout the district, participate in community forums and debates, and attend community rallies and events sponsored by the various organizations in the district.

### **PART 3: Yes or No Questions**

*(Please "X" Yes or No for each question.)*

<b>GENERAL</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
Have you ever sought elected office before?	X	
Have you previously sought a Milk Club endorsement?		X

<b>LGBTQ ISSUES &amp; SEXUAL LIBERATION</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
Do you support codifying various relationship structures as a protected class; e.g., a law that would prohibit discrimination against people in consensual non-monogamous relationships in employment, housing, education, and healthcare?	X	
Do you support public funding for workforce programs, specifically for transgender job-seekers?	X	
Do you support public funding to expand access to PrEP?	X	
Do you support decriminalizing sex work?		X

<b>TENANTS, HOUSING, AND HOMELESSNESS</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
Do you support independent oversight of your jurisdiction's agency that is responsible for services to the homeless?	X	
Do you support the split-role repeal of Proposition 13?	X	
Do you support the repeal of the Costa-Hawkins Rental Housing Act?	X	
Do you support the repeal of the Ellis Act?	X	
Have you ever evicted a tenant?		X
Do you support requiring the consent of homeless encampment residents prior to their displacement by your jurisdiction's city government(s)?		X
Do you support the public acquisition of hotel rooms for permanent shelter and / or supportive housing for the homeless?	X	
Did you support Measure D, the vacant property tax, in 2020 (or would you have, had you been a San Francisco voter)?		
Would you support a licensing system for landlords in your jurisdiction?	X	
Do you support a public municipal bank in your jurisdiction?	X	
Did you support the proposed real estate transfer tax in 2020 for properties valued at or over \$10 million (or would you have, had you been a San Francisco voter)?		

<b>IMMIGRATION JUSTICE ISSUES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
Should the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement be abolished?		X
Do you support sanctuary cities?	X	
Do you support due process protections for immigrant youth accused of crimes?	X	
Do you support allowing the undocumented to serve on city / state boards and commissions?	X	
Do you support increased funds for immigrant defense services?	X	

<b>RACIAL &amp; SOCIAL JUSTICE</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
Do you support the death penalty?		X
Do you support the use of tasers by law enforcement?		
Do you support requiring an independent investigation of all police officer-related shootings?	X	
Does your campaign accept contributions from law enforcement associations, unions, or organizations?		X
Should your local Police Officers Association be disbanded / have its political influence severely curtailed?		
Do you support qualified immunity for police officers?		
Do you support reparations for Black people?		
Do you support the implementation of overdose prevention sites?	X	
Do you support extending voting rights in local / state elections to currently and formerly incarcerated people?		
Have you ever crossed a union picket line or ignored a union boycott?		X
Do you support the right for public sector employees to go on strike?	X	
Do you support repealing California Proposition 209?	X	
Did you support California Proposition 22 (App-Based Drivers Regulations Initiative)?		X

<b>ENVIRONMENTAL AND TRANSPORTATION ISSUES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
Do you support dissolving Pacific, Gas, & Electric and replacing it with a publicly-owned utility agency?		X
If you have a local clean power program partnered with your local utility provider, do you support its expansion?	X	

Would you support a plan to provide free public transportation within your jurisdiction?	X	
Would you support a national ban on fossil fuel extraction?	X	

<b>PUBLIC CORRUPTION &amp; POLITICAL TRANSPARENCY</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
Did you support the Sunlight on Dark Money measure (Proposition F) on the November 2019 ballot (or would you have, had you been a San Francisco voter)?		
Do you support expanding your jurisdiction's public financing program to all elected offices?	X	

### **PART 4: Support of Other Candidates**

*(Please fill in who you supported. If you made a ranked endorsement or voted for more than one candidate using IRV, please indicate the rankings.)*

	<b>2022 Candidate</b>
CA State Assembly, District 17	n/a
San Francisco District 2 Supervisor	n/a
San Francisco District 4 Supervisor	n/a
San Francisco District 6 Supervisor	n/a
San Francisco District 8 Supervisor	n/a
San Francisco District 10 Supervisor	n/a
San Francisco Board of Education (up to 3 names)	n/a
San Francisco Community College Board (up to 4 names)	n/a
San Francisco District Attorney	n/a
San Francisco Public Defender	n/a n/a
	<b>2020 Candidate</b>
Democratic Presidential Primary	Joe Biden
CA State Senate, District 11	n/a
San Francisco District 1 Supervisor	n/a
San Francisco District 3 Supervisor	n/a
San Francisco District 5 Supervisor	n/a
San Francisco District 7 Supervisor	n/a
San Francisco District 11 Supervisor	n/a
	<b>2019 Candidate</b>
San Francisco District 5 Supervisor	n/a
San Francisco District Attorney	n/a
	<b>2018 Candidate</b>
San Francisco Mayor	n/a
San Francisco District 4 Supervisor	n/a

San Francisco District 6 Supervisor	n/a
San Francisco District 8 Supervisor	n/a
San Francisco District 10 Supervisor	n/a