GAY AND LESBIAN ACTIVISTS' ALLIANCE CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

RESPONSES OF PERRY REDD STATEHOOD GREEN PARTY CANDIDATE FOR D.C. COUNCIL

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY

1. In the event of congressional action leading to a ballot initiative in the District that would take away the civil marriage rights now enjoyed by same-sex couples, will you publicly oppose the initiative and defend civil marriage equality?

I will strongly oppose any initiative to deny marriage equality for D.C. residents, including public statements and public actions to oppose backtracking on this crucial issue. We have struggled too long for this basic right to have Congress attempt to undermine it. I am also confident that any initiative to reverse the current law will be rejected by the D.C. electorate.

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2. Will you support Bill 20-0032, the Surrogacy Parenting Agreement Act of 2013, to legalize surrogacy agreements in the District and protect all parties to such agreements?

I support the Surrogacy Parenting Agreement Act of 2013. I agree that such a law is necessary to protect the rights of all involved, and to ensure a wide range of reproductive choices. Further, the criminalization of surrogacy arrangements in D.C. is simply wrong.

PUBLIC HEALTH

3. Will you support legislation giving the directors of the Office of GLBT Affairs and the Office of African Affairs the authority to issue competitive grants as other minority constituent offices have, that will be open to organizations serving the populations within the offices' purview?

I would support such legislation. There is no reason why these Offices should have more limited authority than other constituent offices. Funding for such grants is another issue, which I will also seek to expand and enhance.

4. Will you defend the District's hard-won and life-saving medical marijuana program against attacks or further restrictions, whether from Congress, federal officials or D.C. officials?

For too many years, the U.S. Congress prevented the District from taking necessary steps to bring medical marijuana to those who need it in D.C. This leaves those who need marijuana for medical purposes liable to criminal prosecution. In this city, nearly 10 percent of all arrests are for marijuana possession. This would be simply absurd, but is even worse in the face of severe consequences for those affected. I will whole-heartedly support our medical marijuana law from further restrictions, and I will work to expand access for those who need it.

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5. Describe steps you will support to improve performance at the HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis, STD, and TB Administration (HAHSTA), including in HIV prevention, HIV/AIDS surveillance, and mental health services.

D.C. still needs to improve both prevention and treatment options for people at risk for HIV or who are HIV-positive. I support the District's needle exchange law, which has been opposed by Congress for too long. Many cities have had such programs for a decade or more. We also need to do more on basic prevention – broad-based condom and lube distribution are particularly important for youth. We must get past old attitudes about sexual activity among youth in favor of expanded prevention actions. I have always opposed the criminalization of HIV transmission, which is both illogical and cruel. It is a way to scapegoat people with HIV and I will continue to oppose such measures.

I am particularly concerned with the mistreatment of the transgendered population in D.C, who often have difficulty accessing services through HAHSTA and DMH. D.C. is home to thousands of transgendered people, who deserve the same respect and dignity when accessing public services (and private insurance services) as all other D.C. residents. The lack of cultural competency on transgendered issues is apparent, and unforgivable.

We need to sufficiently fund and expand all health-related services in the District, particularly in light of the terrible health outcomes data for D.C. residents. Poor communities, people of color, and the GLBT communities remain underserved, facing too many material and cultural obstacles to getting life-sustaining treatments and preventive care. We need to make sure our surveillance data accurately reflects the diversity of our communities, and that our services meet the needs of all communities.

PUBLIC SAFETY AND JUDICIARY

6. Will you press for increased oversight of the Metropolitan Police Department's

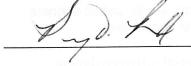
gathering and analysis of crime statistics to ensure greater comprehensiveness and objectivity, including transgender-related hate crime data?

Yes. Appropriate legislative authority needs to remind the MPD that these issues are serious and must be addressed with a greater sense of urgency. This is not the case now.

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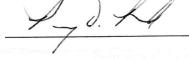
7. Will you support funding for MPD to hire or contract qualified trainers to provide LGBT- inclusive cultural competency training including the handling of intimate partner violence?

Yes. In particular, in light of the terrible instances of anti-transgendered bias by certain MPD officers, more training is needed. In addition, the MPD must take on a zero tolerance policy toward anti-gay, anti-trans, and racism in its ranks. These are extremely serious issues. In this era, and in a city filled with diversity, it is simply unacceptable that our police force retains people of such intolerance within its ranks.



8. Will you support legislation to repeal the so-called Prostitution-Free Zone (PFZ) law, which facilitates anti-transgender profiling?

Yes. Transgender profiling is rampant in these zones, and elsewhere in the city. Transgendered individuals have been selected for arrest and prosecution merely for their appearance. Prostitution-free zones are simply excuses for police attacks on vulnerable individuals, in particular transgender communities.



HUMAN RIGHTS

9. Do you agree that the Director of the Office of Human Rights should be required to have professional training and experience in civil rights law enforcement?

I have many concerns about the leadership of the Office of Human Rights, including its long-standing opposition to antidiscrimination legislation for returning citizens. The Director has shown an astounding lack of awareness of the breadth of the D.C. Human Rights Act and the importance of strong enforcement. Delays in the Department's handling of civil rights cases continue, despite years of promises to improve its performance. Yes, the Director of that office should have demonstrated expertise and experience in civil rights enforcement, and be an advocate for expanded human rights enforcement in D.C.

10. Will you support legislation to allow the issuance of new birth certificates for individuals who undergo treatment related to gender transition, end the requirement for publishing notice of a name change in the newspaper, and allow issuance of new birth certificates via administrative process instead of a court order?

Yes. The current procedures around name changes and birth certificates for those who undergo opt for gender transition are clumsy and offensive to those involved. I recognize that gender identity is a personal matter, and the legal system should facilitate rather than place roadblocks before those making these important decisions.

YOUTH AND SENIORS

11. Will you oppose both federal and local voucher programs that fund students in religious schools that are beyond the protections of the D.C. Human Rights Act?

I oppose vouchers for religious schools generally. Public funds are for public schools, not for private schools that fall beyond the reach of our Human Rights laws.

12. Will you support legislation to ensure equal Medicaid spousal impoverishment protections for same-sex partners, including providing local funding to pay for benefits that are denied at the federal level due to the anti-gay Defense of Marriage Act?

Absolutely. These are very basic rights that should not be denied to same-sex partners.

CONSUMERS AND BUSINESSES

13. Do you support the right of adults in the District to choose adult-oriented entertainment for themselves, and the right of appropriately licensed and zoned businesses to provide it, without excluding any ward?

Adult-oriented entertainment should not be subjected to unnecessary restrictions. No Ward should be able to simply exclude such establishments when they are appropriately zoned and licensed.

14. Will you support legislation to eliminate legal standing for ad hoc protest groups and citizens associations in liquor licensing cases, to permit input by all community stakeholders via the great weight already accorded Advisory Neighborhood

Commissions?

The current liquor license procedures have been marred by the activity of certain ad hoc protest groups. While I recognize that community input is important for permitting such establishments, the ANCs are the most appropriate vehicle for debating these topics.

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15. What will you do to provide alternatives to incarceration for marginalized and at-risk populations like homeless youth and transgender people who resort to prostitution for survival?

The criminalization of homelessness is a central concern of my campaign. The lack of affordable housing, the paucity of services for the homeless and near-homeless, and the exposure of poor people generally to law enforcement are critical issues. The overwhelming majority of arrests in D.C. are for misdemeanors like low-level drug possession, disorderly conduct, public urination, and prostitution. Such offenses should not be criminalized to begin with, Rather than arrest and incarceration, we need to provide housing and real employment services for marginalized communities. People turn to prostitution when they are left with no other options. We need to recognize this, and ensure that we provide options, not criminal records.

This is one of the many reasons why I have supported for many years the adoption of antidiscrimination protection for people with criminal records. Too many people have criminal records in this city, and are subsequently excluded from employment and

housing

Your record is part of your rating. Please list any actions that you have taken that may help illustrate your record on behalf of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people. (SEE SEPARATE PAGE)

Your answers should be typed on separate paper rather than on this form. You must sign your name on each answer sheet to indicate your personal commitment to your answers.

Please return your signed questionnaire responses by Thursday, March 7 to GLAA, P.O.

Box 75265, Washington, D.C. 20013.

In addition to sending your signed hard copy, please email a copy (in any major word

processor or text format) for loading on GLAA's website (www.glaa.org) to equal@glaa.org. Thank you.

Actions I have taken that may illustrate my record on behalf of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people.

I counseled my cousin on steps to get legal redress and file a complaint against the Philadelphia police department when he was assaulted in 2011. I co-managed Darryl Moch's campaign in 2010. He's was an openly gay candidate for DC City Council. I marched with, interviewed, and featured the voices of LGBT activists from the 2009 demonstration in McPherson Square for my weekly radio show, *Socially Speaking*. We continue to champion for their rights—as human rights—on our radio show. I'm also co-founder and ED of Sincere Seven, a workers rights advocacy, founded in 1999. We champion for LGBT workers as part of our work on behalf of all workers.