

**GAY AND LESBIAN ACTIVISTS ALLIANCE OF WASHINGTON DC
2015 QUESTIONNAIRE FOR DC COUNCIL CANDIDATES**

1. Yes, I fully support the DC legislation that repeals the Armstrong Amendment and prohibits conversion therapy. The Armstrong Amendment violated freedom of association based on the content of the speech about LGBT rights. Conversion therapy is based on junk science and should not be tolerated as science or enshrined in law.
2. Yes, given that there seem to be many safeguards. However, I am concerned that poor and disadvantaged women, those with few employment and financial options, will become habitual surrogates.
3. I believe that HAHSTA should focus on teaching prevention in schools and community centers to youth from age ten by teaching them the risks of sexually transmitted diseases. We need to teach the youth that the diseases can be transmitted by people of all sexual orientations.
Additionally, because our community has so many families of different cultures from all over the world, HAHSTA needs to institute education programs for parents whose beliefs regarding sexuality keep them from acknowledging the many gender identities that exist or that adults and youth have sex outside marriage. Parents' beliefs about sexuality may hinder their children's education about sexually transmitted diseases because they refuse to believe that their children are sexually active in the face of evidence of such activity. Additionally, parents of certain cultures may refuse to recognize that their children may be gay or shame the children because there is evidence that they are not heterosexual. All of these behaviors may drive the youth to fail to get tested or hide any diseases that they may contract.
4. Yes.
5. Yes; I believe all underserved and hard to reach populations, including the LGBT population, should be targeted to provide improved health services, including mental health and drug abuse treatment.
6. DC MPD should systematically collect and report crime statistics identifying crimes which exhibit any evidence of hate crime, including any crimes which appear to be directed to the LGBT community.
7. I would support a death with dignity law which provides sufficient safeguards to prevent an individual from taking his/her life as a result of a mental state brought about by treatable depression rather than the immediate terminal status of the patient's medical disease.
Renee L. Bowser /s/

8. Yes, as I believe people from all protected classes must have employment opportunities in order to support themselves and their families, I will advocate special focus and targeted programs for underserved populations, including transgender people.
9. Yes; I'm an affordable housing advocate and will advocate for improved services for populations most in need of safe, affordable housing, including LGBT homeless youth and seniors.
10. Yes.

March 5, 2015

Renee L. Bowser /s/
Renee L. Bowser
Candidate for Ward 4 Council
April 28, 2015 Special Election

From: info@renee4ward4.com
Sent: Thursday, March 5, 2015 at 10:30 PM
To: Richard Rosendall <equal@glaa.org>
Re: Submission of GLAA of Washington DC 2015 Questionnaire for DC Council Candidates

Mr. Rosendall,

When I tutored homeless children for 6 years, I tutored all children in the program; when I fought to keep DC public schools open it was for the benefit of all children attending those schools; when I fought for inclusionary zoning and other affordable housing measures it was for all low-income and homeless people. I did not join organizations that focused only on LGBT people; rather I focused on the most needy which includes LGBT folks.

Renee