

Leave No One Behind 2022 GLAA Questionnaire

Please give more than a simple "yes" or "no" response to our questions — though you should begin with a "yes" or "no." The depth and completeness of your answers play a major role in determining your final rating.

Your record is part of your rating. Please list any actions that you have taken that may help illustrate your record on behalf of LGBTQ people. Feel free to link relevant documents such as letters to the editor, legislative testimony, campaign literature, etc.

Housing

- Do you support providing sufficient affordable housing units for all households earning less than 30% of the Area Median Income (AMI), such as, allocating vacant apartments to very low-income households, ensuring sufficient funds for the Housing Production Trust Fund are dedicated to these renters, and strengthening inclusionary zoning laws?
 - Yes; One of the most important components of affordable housing are the zoning laws, and I would ensure that major developments take into account local input by engaging ANC's. I support growth, but also intentional and inclusive growth..
- Do you support improving access to housing voucher programs by increasing the number available, as advocated for by The Way Home Campaign and LGBTQ+ Budget Coalition, and reforming program eligibility rules?
 - Yes; I would need to do my due diligence and understand the entire process for the voucher program, what are the current requirements (and barriers) to entry for individuals needing housing vouchers, what is the amount given from the vouchers, and how much of the LGBTQ+ Budget Coalition is allocated specifically for the vouchers. Additionally, I would ensure that experts on the housing voucher program within the LGBTQ+ Budget Coalition provide their input and expertise on this topic.

Workers' Rights

- Do you support enacting legislation decriminalizing sex work for adults, including the selling and purchasing of sex and third party involvement not involving fraud, violence or coercion?
 - Absolutely yes; Sex work is work. The main reasons I would support the decriminalization of sex work for adults is because there would be safety created for sex workers if their work were legal. For example, if a sex worker is abused in any way, the individual would be confident in their ability to call the police and report a crime without fear of being penalized for engaging in sex work. Also, I want to make sure there is safety in the work and would advocate for regular tested requirements.
- Do you support repealing the subminimum wage for tipped workers?
 - I support prop. 82 and it will hopefully pass again. Workers in the service industry were hit the hardest by the pandemic, and we need to ensure a better base pay for those who receive income as tipped workers. We also need to ensure that

establishments that employ tipped workers are able to absorb a new higher wage by ensuring that other costs are in line with Maryland and Virginia. For example, alcohol liability insurance is much higher in DC, which has the effect of local businesses sending millions of dollars in insurance premiums out of state. Those funds would be best invested locally in higher salaries.

- Do you support funding the Office of Human Rights (OHR) at a level that ensures the agency ends its case backlog, completes discrimination cases in a timely manner, and effectively engages in community education and outreach?
- Yes; To create more efficiency for OHR, I would support an audit to see how we can implement technology programming to reduce backlog and streamline work.

Health

- Do you support establishing overdose prevention facilities in the District to reduce deaths from drug overdoses?
 - Yes; Additionally, I would want to use data and research studies to have a continuous improvement for the overdose prevention facilities so that we are always updating and improving the ways we reduce deaths from drug overdose.
- Do you support removing the criminal penalties for drug possession for personal use and increasing investments in health services?
 - Yes; Studies have consistently shown and proven that the criminalization of drug use and/or drug possession is not an effective means for dealing addiction.

Policing and incarceration

- Do you support reducing D.C.'s total pre-COVID-19 incarcerated population by one-third to one-half by FY30?
 - Yes; We can begin reducing the prison population by investing in alternatives to arrest for drug related offenses.
- Do you support better oversight, transparency, and accountability in the process of investigating and improving D.C. jails, including establishing an independent oversight body, addressing issues impacting transgender individuals, repairing jails, and changing staff culture?
 - Yes; The independent oversight body should be focused on rehabilitation and working with the Federal Bureau of Prisons to ensure those facing a longer term sentence are not imprisoned in far away states.
- Do you support divesting from the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) to further invest in vital programs, including anti-poverty, violence prevention, crisis intervention, and reentry?
 - No; The MPD budget is less than 3% of the city budget. Human Support Services accounts for over 30%. In DC, the critical question is how we make our budgets work to meet people where they are, when in need, by providing additional services available within the 911 network.

*Please return your questionnaire responses in PDF format **by 11:59pm ET on Friday, April 22** [here](#). If you have trouble submitting your response through the form, you can email it to equal@glaa.org. GLAA will rate each response at our meeting on April 26 at 7pm ET.*