

Back to Basics

2026 GLAA General Election Questionnaire

The following questions are based on [Back to Basics: GLAA Policy Brief 2026](#). If you have questions about the issues raised in the questionnaire, please seek the brief for guidance and clarification.

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—particularly actions that relate to the topics in recent GLAA policy briefs. Feel free to link relevant documents such as letters to the editor, legislative testimony, campaign literature, etc. Assume that GLAA is unfamiliar with your record.

- 1. Fight for Home Rule.** To protect DC's LGBTQ+ communities, will you oppose every single effort to infringe on DC's autonomy?

Yes. I have as a leader on the community level, and officially as a DC mayoral candidate demonstrated my intentions to "Defend DC" against the threats to our autonomy, which is why I launched the "Defend DC" Congressional Lobby Day in April 2025 when the B.O.W.S.E.R. Act was first introduced in Congress. Additionally, I have written President Trump on several occasions to notify him of my intentions as DC's next Mayor to galvanize DC citizens against his unscrupulous threats and attacks to our independence among other concerns. For additional information regarding these efforts, you are welcomed to click the link below: <https://rhondahamilton4dc.com/defend-dc/>

- 2. Stop Enabling Federal Overreach.** Will you refuse to cooperate with the Federal Government in its undemocratic use of power, including the authoritarian deployment of National Guard troops?

Yes. I have vocally remained opposed to the District's cooperation with the Federal Government's undemocratic use of power and the deployment of the National Guard troops. I spoke on Fox 5 News with regards to my position regarding this matter. Click the link, and fast forward to 30:02: <https://www.fox5dc.com/video/fmc-m7ruscyrqdn9xsmb>

- 3. Invest In a Just Legal System.** To support LGBTQ+ people involved in the legal system, do you support limiting pre-trial detention at a minimum to the evidence-based laws in place before 2023 and investing more resources into civil legal help?

Yes. I do support limited pre-trial detention. I would like to offer my recently submitted extended response in the 2026 Nonpartisan Black Voter Guide Washington, DC Candidate Questionnaire, regarding this matter. I believe that all DC residents including members of our LGBTQ+ community, would be better supported with new leadership that is committed to addressing the ongoing local challenges regarding our legal system, to include increased resources for civil legal help.

“The local DC justice system is plagued by its inability to appoint its own judges, lack of expanded local prosecutorial power, failed oversight of its crime lab, a severely aging & unsafe DC jail facility, understaffed correctional personnel, lack of "Home Rule", congressional overreach, as well as failed strategies for addressing youth, and minority populations’ rehabilitation. Fixing the problems within our local justice system will require fixing the leadership in DC's local government & putting an end to the federal & congressional overreach into DC's local affairs. The public safety & well-being of DC's minority residents' rests with electing a new leader that is committed to fighting to move DC forward not enduring more of the same structural racist outcomes.”

4. Safe and Warm Homes. In light of disproportionate representation of LGBTQ+ among people without stable housing, do you support strengthening and enforcing the existing laws and investing the District’s resources to end homelessness in DC?

Yes. As a mental health advocate for the past decade across the District, my work also involved extensive housing and homelessness advocacy. I am a leader who is committed to ending homelessness as well as eradicating the existence of the District’s slumlord realities. My recent interview response to Mobilizednews.com is presented for your further review below. Additionally, my organization’s website link is being provided for an expanded view of my work involving these matters. <https://healthydcandme.org/the-woodberry-project/>

“As DC’s next Chief Executive, I recognize that the foundation for overall mental and physical well-being rests with having safe, stable, and habitable housing. “Housing as healthcare” means prioritizing policies and systems that address economic strife, housing affordability and instability, as well as enforcing laws that deter slumlord behaviors and balances out the effects of gentrification. In practice concerns for DC residents’ lack of healthy living, mental wellness, access to dignified living services and resources remains to be observed as a crisis that my administration will treat with the absolute urgency, systemic reform, and compassionate action it demands.”

5. Abundant and Nutritious Food. Do you support increasing the nutrition assistance program benefits to fill the gap created by the federal government?

Yes. I do support increasing the nutrition assistance program benefits to fill the gap. My recent response to the 2026 Nonpartisan Black Voter Guide Washington, DC Candidate Questionnaire, offers I believe an extended understanding of my position and intentions regarding this matter.

“As DC’s next mayor addressing the absence of having an adequate number of full-service grocery stores in Wards 5, 7, and 8 will require implementation of vendor financial incentives, public-private partnerships, infrastructure and safety improvements, as well as heavy investments in community-based food solutions. As a mental health advocate on the ground in the District, primarily in these Wards for the past decade, I am acutely aware of the documented linkage of diet to overall treatment outcomes and the onset of disease and reduced life preservation realities. Becoming DC’s next mayor will allow me to finally implement and expand healthy living solutions for residents and remove the current barriers to healthcare, and quality of life issues that are currently being experienced by far too many Washingtonians and disproportionately to those living in Wards 5, 7, and 8.”

6. Power to the People. Do you commit to providing economic relief to DC’s LGBTQ+ residents and businesses by investing in energy and water infrastructure that prioritizes the people of DC over corporate profits?

Yes. I absolutely believe that “Power” should rests with the “People”, to include our LGBTQ+ residents and businesses, which is what fueled my response below in the recently submitted 2026 Nonpartisan Black Voter Guide Washington, DC Candidate Questionnaire. Additionally, it is my intention to push for robust regulatory and increased legislative accountability to help decrease the continued hikes in utility costs that continue to be imposed on District residents.

“My plan is to legislatively eliminate the role that elected lawmakers and senior executives occupy in alleged shameful “pay for play” lobbyist, corporate, and government relationships that have compromised enforcement of penalties, and legal actions against violators of DC laws. I will introduce enforcement mandates that stipulate all legally collected damages be invested in marginalized neighborhoods of color and towards initiatives that will elevate their voices in matters involving land use and environmental policies.”

7. Health Care is Human Right. Will you use every tool within your power to ensure transgender youth and adults have access to healthcare in DC?

Yes. Absolutely. Health Care is a top priority within my platform, and I intend for my transgender youth as well as all District residents to have access to quality and stable health care. My expanded approach, which I believe is relevant to the question being asked is listed below. This information was also recently communicated in the 2026 Nonpartisan Black Voter Guide Washington, DC Candidate Questionnaire.

“In determining how best to address the District’s ailing healthcare disparities as an incoming new mayor, one of my first steps was to assemble a Commission on Wellness to further examine the complex systems of care within the District, paying specific attention to those Wards that are the most medically underserved and those that are impacted the most by a heavy presence of social determinants.

My team and I determined that to improve healthcare in our poorest Wards and for the city as a whole, we must improve healthcare access, as well as utilization. Additionally, we determined that improving the following areas of focus would provide a foundation upon which we could begin to determine where replacement would be needed, or improvements could be made with regards to safety-net programs like the Health Alliance

- Chronic disease prevention and community health**
- Access to primary and preventive care**
- Health system innovation and workforce development**
- Medicaid policy and governance**
- Patient-centered end-of-life care**
- Hospital oversight and patient safety**

My specific, funded plan to ensure that every resident in the District – especially seniors and those in Wards 4,5,7, and 8 – has access to affordable, comprehensive healthcare includes solving the issues related to care involving cost, complexity, time, transportation, and trust barriers. My policies will address the disproportionate impact of District citizens residing in these Wards by addressing the structural behavior of ensuring that stability in coverage and continuity of care is implemented as public health tools, to avoid the delays in care, improper use of emergency room, and higher long-term public costs. Stabilizing coverage, reducing friction, and increasing real-world use of care, especially in communities most vulnerable to policy shifts will help to mitigate sudden affordability shocks, strengthen navigation so that residents can effectively utilize their benefits, emphasize primary and preventive care, and encourage care delivery models that reflect real-life constraints. Also, I will create opportunities to establish partnerships with universities, health systems, and community organizations to increase methods of education and prevention, shrinking pharmaceutical costs, reaching people through places they already trust, like schools, churches, barbershops, and salons.”

8. Health Care is a Smart Investment. Do you commit to opposing cuts to the Health Care Alliance and Medicaid health insurance programs to balance DC's budget?

As Mayor cutting health care programs is not a part of my plan. As indicated in my answer to question #7, my administration will work to ensure that all District residents have access to health care. My administration will work to audit our existing healthcare system to identify ways to eliminate wasteful spending, expand coverage and invest in prevention as well as holistic models of care to help offset budget concerns.

9. Access to Public Benefits. Do you commit to creating the most accessible system for program beneficiaries possible to minimize LGBTQ+ people not being able to access benefits due to bureaucracy?

I am committed to ensuring that members of the LGBTQ+ community as well as all residents of the District are no longer challenged or hindered in their quality of living due to bureaucratic processes that exist within DC agencies, systems, and programming. My primary reason for auditing each agency will be to eliminate any challenges with staffing, funding, and citizen outcomes to help rebuild resident trust in our government, which is also a top priority of my platform.

10. Fight Crime At The Source. Do you support decriminalizing sex work and making better investments in violence prevention activities?

I support stronger oversight over our matters of public safety, mental health, human and sex trafficking, as well as the proper rehabilitation and access to services for the many District citizens and youth who are plagued with drug addiction and homelessness. I also support consensual sex between adults, and am equally opposed to exploitation and violence against women, members of the LGBTQ+ community as well as youth. I believe that the existing, funded violence prevention programs should be audited to properly assess impact and increased opportunities for improving the safety of our youth, members of our LGBTQ+ community, as well as in communities across the District.

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in the 2026 GLAA General Election Questionnaire. The voices and concerns of my LGBTQ+ community members are important and I look forward to continuing my work on behalf of so many of my wonderful residents in this community and communities across DC, as we come together to help fend off the continued threats to our "home rule".

Please return your questionnaire responses in PDF format by 11:59pm ET on Friday, October 2 to equal@glaa.org.

