

Candidate Questionnaire

From: Santa Cruz for Bernie

To: Candidates for Local Races in the March 5, 2024 Primary Election

Santa Cruz for Bernie, with over 2,000 politically active members in the Central Coast region, requests that you complete this questionnaire so we can provide guidance to our membership in the upcoming important Primary Election in March.

Because SC4B members widely support policy proposals promoted by Senator Bernie Sanders, some of those topics are reflected in this questionnaire. (See berniesanders.com/issues)

(Just start typing after the >> cue)

1. Your full name >> **Glenn Micah Glazer**
2. Your city and county of residence >> **Felton, Santa Cruz**
3. Office you are seeking >> **Santa Cruz Democratic Central Committee District 5**
4. Length of residence in your current District >> **16 years**
5. Your occupation or avocation >> **Software Engineer**
6. Significant memberships, affiliations, and leadership positions held (political, labor union, public service, etc.) >> **Advisory Team Member, Santa Cruz for Bernie; Executive Board Member, California Democratic Party; Rules Committee Member and County Bylaws Subcommittee Co-Chair, California Democratic Party; Secretary, Santa Cruz County Democratic Central Committee; Endorsement and Finance Subcommittees, Santa Cruz County Democratic Central Committee; Treasurer, Democratic Club of North Santa Cruz County; Admin CADEM Delegates Facebook Group, Climate and Political Committees, Sierra Club.**
7. In what political campaigns, organizations, and movements have you been active, and what role did you play? >>

Current:

CalCare District Lead; Monica Martinez for Supervisor: Event host, various support roles; Katie Porter for Senate: volunteer lead, delegate whip, organizational assistance.

Previous:

Brand New Council (Chris, Drew, Sandy, Steve), Volunteer ; Bernie Sanders for President (twice), Dialer Manager, Data Pilot, Canvasser, Canvass Organizer, Phonebanker, and Turf Cutter ; Kimberly Ellis for CADEM Chair (twice), AD 29 Whip; Delaine Eastin for Governor, Central Coast Whip and field staff; Adam Scow for Congress, Volunteer

8. Which policy proposals championed by Bernie Sanders are you most passionate about? >> **There are three which I think form the basis of everything else. If we do not solve these problems, then either the rest of the problems won't matter or can't be solved.**

The first two are Green New Deal and Medicare for All. If we turn the earth to dust or continue either bankrupt or kill large segments of our population due to inadequate health care, then nothing else matters. As an example, even though I'm LGBT, LGBT rights must take a step back compared to stopping these kinds of devastation.

The third is getting corporate money out of politics. If we don't do this, none of the other problems will be fixable because lobbyists will dominate the conversation and have laws written to suit their interests, not the interests of the common folk. These do tie together: it is clear that the major obstacle to getting Medicare for All passed is all of the Big Insura and Big Pharma money in campaign contributions, remove that and we win.

I am also a big supporter of Tuition Free Public Colleges (I was over 50 before I paid off my loans) and Criminal Justice and Prison Systems Reform.

9. What actions would you take at the local level in support of single-payer healthcare including a national Medicare for All and a state CalCare plan? >> **I already have led crowd canvases in Felton and voted to support CalCare as part of the state party platform. I was responsible for the City of Santa Cruz passing a Medicare for all Resolution.**
10. What bold and transformative policy proposals would you support to address the climate crisis at the local, state and national levels? >> **One of the major drivers of climate change is emissions and there are various proposals that I support to do this, including solar power and electric vehicle incentives. But the bold idea I have is to take a lesson from the pandemic and incentivize, to the greatest amount possible, people working from home. It takes cars off the road, decreases the need for large office buildings and their energy needs and even builds community since people aren't spending hours of their day commuting to somewhere else. Incentives could include large tax breaks for home offices and local shopping incentives, to cut down on the emissions produced by large delivery trucks that support internet shopping.**
11. What policy proposals would you support that address the issue of growing income/wealth inequality? >> **First and foremost, we need to close all the loopholes and make the wealthy pay their fair share of taxes. It's a cancer that they can afford high powered accountants and attorneys to get away with paying the least (often nothing). This mirrors Bernie's Income Inequality Tax Plan and Tax on Extreme Wealth plans to close the gap from the top. Second, we need to raise the Federal minimum wage to at least \$15 and get universal health care passed so that people are no longer trapped in poverty, but have the ability to go upwards. As mentioned above, I support tuition free public colleges, which again, helps with upward mobility. These proposals help close the gap from the bottom. Another of Bernie's proposals I support is the Fair Banking for All plan which caps predatory lending rates and establishes public banking at post offices. Indeed, the primary mission of the company I work for is to enable immigrants and underprivileged people build credit and obtain higher end financial products normally only available to the wealthy.**
12. What policy proposals would you support that address our local housing and homelessness crises? >> **We need first of all to stop treating being houseless as a crime. I watched an officer give a houseless person a ticket at the Galleria once – how does adding more debt to this person help? It doesn't. It just supports the landed owners of the property's property values. Same for rousting their encampments and keeping them on the move, which just makes it harder on them to do the basic things like go to work each day. From there, we need to vastly increase our inventory of affordable housing (which implies building which implies more union jobs). We already know that we have vastly more Section 8 voucher recipients than we have Section 8 housing, so we need to catch up in that department. One less obvious suggestion is to really rein in the gig rental (Air BnB and the like) industry. Property values and therefore rents have skyrocketed because of these short term rentals, exacerbating our vacation town values to begin with. Forcing these people to go through the same laws, regulations and taxes as regular hotels would greatly lower the profitability and thus desirability of same, with a slow return to pre-gig values modulated by other economic factors.**
13. What measures would you support to foster union jobs? (e.g. adopt project labor agreements with local hire and apprenticeship training requirements; invest in fully staffed public sector workforce.) >> **So, I support all of the things mentioned in the question, and in addition, I have a bold suggestion given the slow decline in union members across the board. It is based on the observation that unionization has really only penetrated certain traditional trades and some of those trades are facing end of life for various reasons such as technology or shifting economies. The suggestion here is to think outside the box and start a serious push for unionization of professions outside the existing unionized trades. Professional unions exist in Europe and my friends there are often surprised I don't belong to one. Instead, in software engineering, we have egregious abuses of the workforce, particularly the kids coming out of college. A classic example is startups who push their exempt employees to 60 hour or more weeks with no overtime pay and the big benefit is all the soda they can drink and all the candy bars they can eat. No union would put up with this kind of abuse, so organizing is desperately needed.**

14. If you were eligible, did you vote for Bernie Sanders in the Primary Election 2016? *Yes or No* >> **Yes.**
In 2020? *Yes or No* >> **Yes.**

15. If elected, what do you realistically hope to accomplish during your term of office? >> **First and foremost, along with my slate and others in other districts, replace a non-progressive majority on the DCC to vote for endorsements and resolutions from a progressive viewpoint. Secondly, as a DCC representative to the state party, do the same at the state level. This also allows me to continue my effective critique (see 16.) of the state party officers and the way that the state party operates. The realistic view is that real, permanent change in the party is a lot like boiling the frog and does not occur in one term or even several. Instead, it occurs as a long, slow, rolling change that requires patience and persistence, both of which I have, to succeed.**

16. Give an example of when you spoke truth to power. Who were the players, what were the stakes, and what did you do? >> **The most recent example, as a continuation of my critiques of the state party on transparency and activism, was to run an issues campaign for state party controller. It began as a protest of the party charging obscene amounts for the delegate roster to shut out grassroots activists, but became a platform to attend club, county committee and regional meetings to criticize the party on financial transparency: almost nobody has seen the budget and there are some very sketchy donors on our list that we don't publish. We are also very opaque about our decision process for which campaigns we spend money on. I criticized the understaffing of the operation, which stresses out staff members, and asked why they weren't unionized. Directly criticizing the officers like this was a big risk in terms of my staying on committees (which are appointed solely by the chair) and my ability to work across lines to get some of this done. The stakes were less corruption and back door politics, more voter and grassroots activist participation. The result was moving the Overton Window and drawing the other candidate into consistently saying publicly that she agreed with my criticisms and proposed reforms.**

17. Are you running in coordination with any other local candidate? >> **Yes, Amanda Harris Altice, Wendy Harris, and Joe Thompson.**

18. Why should members of Santa Cruz for Bernie vote for you to be their elected representative? (*max 50 words*) >> **Most importantly, because I am you, a part of us. I have been a part of SC4B since 2015, worked on both Bernie campaigns and our Brand New City Council Campaign, as well as being an active member of the advisory team and our Our Revolution liaison.**

Please return your completed questionnaire to santacruz4bernie@gmail.com by December 17, 2023.

Thank you for your participation in this democratic process of candidate endorsement.