

2022 Primary Endorsement Questionnaire

DEADLINE: Submit by 12:00 Noon, Monday, April 18, 2022

Email *

votejamalkhan@gmail.com



Thank you for your interest in being considered for an endorsement by the Asian Pacific American Democratic Caucus of Alameda County. Please answer each question in 250 words or less. Be honest and direct. Please submit your responses by 12 Noon, Monday, Apr. 18. All questionnaire responses will be posted on our website for Caucus members to review.

Personal Information

Candidate Name *

Jamal Khan

City and zip code of residence.

San Jose, 95132

What is your campaign website address?

www.votekhan.com

What is your campaign email address?

votejamalkhan@gmail.com

Are you a registered Democrat? The APA Democratic Caucus can only endorse registered Democrats *

Yes

No

Are you an APA Democratic Caucus member? *

Yes

No

How long have you lived in the district which you are seeking to represent?

About 25 years

What are the names of any community or nonprofit organizations with which you have been an active volunteer in the past 3-5 years.

Vice President of California Writers Club South Bay Branch

CANDIDATE QUESTIONS

1. What actions have you taken to address anti-Asian discrimination/bullying/harassment? Please explain in what capacity you have acted and whether any of these actions were prior to 2020. (i.e., as an elected representative, member of commission/board/organization, and as an individual.

At Harvard Law School, I served as Communications Chair of the South Asian Law Students Association and President of the Muslim Law Students Association. In both organizations, we organized events that focused on promoting diversity and combatting bigotry. I also served as Managing Technical Editor of the Harvard Human Rights Journal.

2. One out of every 3 Alameda County residents is of Asian ancestry but are underrepresented in elected office. What have you done and will you do to elevate their issues of concern?

The top two issues that Asian American voters bring up with me are public safety and hate crimes, followed by affordable housing and homelessness. All four of those issues are top priorities in my policy platform.

3. One-third of Alameda County residents were born in another country. Do you believe that the needs of immigrants have been adequately addressed by the office you are seeking to represent? What changes are needed to better center their needs?

Language translation services are important, and not just for one or two Asian languages. Voter registration rates still lag behind those of communities that have been here longer. My parents were born in Asia (I was also born in Asia but grew up here). I know that my parents' generation often focuses on the politics in their home countries rather than in the USA. How do we encourage them to be more engaged in local politics? We need to reach out to the leaders of Asian American affinity groups and have them influence their communities to get politically involved. If they see that this can lead to tangible changes in their lives, that will make a big difference.

4. What have you learned about Asian Americans in the past year that you were previously unaware of and how has that impacted you?

Public discourse about Asian Americans often centers around them being a model minority, but there is a lot of socioeconomic diversity within the community. There are plenty of Asian Americans who are struggling financially, and their needs are important too.

5. What is the difference between supporting Asian American/Pacific Islander issues and being an Ally?

As an Asian American myself, my concern is their concern. I'm not just an Ally. I'm a member of the community. I went to a public high school in the Bay Area that was roughly half Asian and half Latino, with few whites or blacks. My classmates were Chinese, Vietnamese, Filipino, Korean, Japanese, Indian, etc. I myself was born in Bangladesh and grew up in the Bay Area.

6. What resources (people/organizations) will you tap to increase your knowledge and understanding of the on-going needs of the Asian and Pacific Americans living in your district?

I will keep in mind that Asian and Pacific Americans cannot and should not be viewed as a monolithic bloc. There is diversity across every conceivable characteristic, including language, race, religion, and culture. Although there is some overlap in concerns and interests, each community within the Asian American diaspora must be heard without preconceptions.

7. Please identify any Asian Pacific American candidates whom you have publicly endorsed/supported over the past 5 years including this election cycle. If there are none, please explain.

I worked on Kamala Harris's US Senate campaign in the LA headquarters in 2016.

Thank you for completing our questionnaire.

Only candidates who submit questionnaires by noon Monday, April 18 will be considered for endorsement.

Google Forms