



**Candidate Questionnaire for  
San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee  
Primary Election, June 7, 2016**

Please return this questionnaire electronically to [contact\\_us@phdemclub.org](mailto:contact_us@phdemclub.org) **no later than Monday, April 4<sup>th</sup>**. Candidates who do not return the questionnaire by the due date will not be invited to appear at our April 12th endorsement meeting. Questionnaires will be made available to our members online.

Candidate name: Alysabeth Alexander

Contact person: self

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Phone number: 4150741-7635

Web site: [www.votealysabeth.nationbuilder.com](http://www.votealysabeth.nationbuilder.com)

Please write a brief response ( $\leq 200$  words) to each question.

1. Why are you running for the DCCC and what do you hope to accomplish if elected or re-elected?

I want the Democratic Party to reflect the values of people before profits, equal opportunity all, environmental protections, and a well funded public sector that provides quality schools, health care and hospitals, parks, water, and all the other important services we rely on.

1. Good jobs: The Democratic Party should lead on ending the cycles of poverty of endless job training program with no job prospects (Welfare-to-Work reform). The DCCC should hold a hearing inviting stakeholder groups and in neighborhoods on jobs;
2. Take a strong position against corporate tax breaks and loopholes to fund housing and public services we all rely on;
3. Secure Retirement: The DCCC should do outreach and listening sessions for San Franciscans about retirement insecurity and develop a policy position and advocacy campaign to support the CA Treasurer's secure retirement program. You can find more information here: <http://www.treasurer.ca.gov/scib/>

2. Please describe your current and past community activism.

I have been a Tenant Organizer, an immigrant rights advocate, and a workers' rights advocate for over 12 years. I am a board member for Jobs with Justice and the SF Labor Council. I have helped hundreds of tenants facing eviction, dealing with unsafe and uninhabitable living conditions, and fought for policy solutions to help homeless families like the first locally funded rent subsidy programs for all families regardless of immigration status and prior criminal background. I fought for language access in our schools and to clean up the Tenderloin children's parks. I was the proponent of the first \$15/hour minimum wage ballot measure and helped hundreds of workers form a union to gain a voice at work. I am supporting a state-wide effort to create pooled retirement savings program for Californians who don't have a pension so we all can have more security in our old age.

3. Would you support closing the campaign finance loophole that allows candidates running for their party's Central Committee to raise unlimited funds, while other candidates for local elected office are limited to \$500 per donor? Why or why not?

I do support campaign limits for the DCCC for two reasons:

1. It seems like it has become a loophole for elected officials or candidates for other races to raise unlimited funds from only a few sources and gain more name recognition
2. The DCCC should not give political cover to corporate and real estate interests, and being that these groups can spend unlimited amounts of money to support candidates they can essentially buy the Democratic Party locally who then endorse ballot measures and candidates that serve the interests of these corporations;

I have only one hesitation: With Citizens United, without federal reform it would be impossible to make real and meaningful campaign finance reform— independent expenditures are still possible and in some ways are more harmful because candidates can have no knowledge of their existence and therefore distance themselves from responsibility for their funders. I support campaign limitations but realize that even with these limitations, we badly need federal campaign finance reform to overturn Citizens United.

4. Please name the 3 endorsements of which you are most proud.

Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club, SF Womens Political Committee, SF Tenants Union

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5. Please indicate, and explain, your position on the following past ballot propositions.

- Proposition G (2014), Additional Transfer Tax on Residential Property Sold Within 5 Years of Purchase
  - Supported X Opposed \_\_\_\_\_ Why? Flipping houses drives up the prices for people who want to live in the Bay Area. The practice is only profitable when the buyer can purchase lower, do some improvements (often minor and cosmetic), and sell the house for much more—this practice only benefits a few people in real estate and hurts the rest of the population trying to afford housing.

- Proposition F (2015), Short-Term Residential Rentals
  - Supported X    Opposed \_\_\_\_\_    Why? I believe that the platforms (AirBNB, VBRO, etc) should take responsibility for not permitting the illegal behavior of their hosts by refusing to list units that have not registered with the City or are above the legal amount of days rented. Otherwise, the City has no way of enforcing the law which is reflective in approximately 90% of current listings are not registered with the City and entire neighborhoods are being turned into hotels.

6. The population of SF is up, but Democratic Party registration and turnout have mostly been down in recent years. What specifically will you do to improve the Party's registration efforts and organization in District 10?

I believe that the overall decline in Party registration is due to the fact that most voters only relationship to the Democratic Party is at the national level, governed by politics all happening on the East side of the country. In order to be successful we need to increase visibility and our relevance to local voters by reflecting the values and providing policy solutions to the issues they care about. We also need to increase visibility and accessibility. These are four issues I am dedicated to working on:

1. Help create a local Democratic Party platform that San Franciscans can identify with and are inspired by;
2. Change the bylaws to allow us to have more public meetings in different parts of the City especially in school gyms and public places in D10;
3. Support state-wide efforts to register high school students;
4. Fund summer registration programs and events to increase visibility, develop new leaders, and attract people to the party.

Thank you for your time and your commitment to public service. Pending timely receipt of your questionnaire, we look forward to seeing you at the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House on April 12<sup>th</sup>.

*Executive Committee, Potrero Hill Democratic Club*