



2018 Candidate Questionnaire - House

Candidate Name: **Kia Hamadanchy**

Campaign Address: **17155 Gillette Ave., Irvine, CA 92614**

E-mail Address: **kia@kiafororangecounty.com**

Office for which you are running: **U.S. Congress CA-45**

Date of Election: **Primary - June 5, General - November 6**

Campaign Manager: **Luke Quandt**

Phone: **(949)445-3010**

Fax: **N/A**

Progressive Democrats of America (PDA) was founded in 2004 to transform the Democratic Party and our country. We seek to build a party and government controlled by citizens, not corporate elites - with policies that serve the broad public interest, not just private interests. As a grassroots PAC, PDA operates inside the Democratic Party, and outside in movements for peace and justice.

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The Congressional Progressive Caucus

Do you pledge, if elected to this office, to immediately join the Congressional Progressive Caucus?

Yes

No

If not, why not?

Lobbyist

Do you pledge, if elected to this office, to NOT become a paid lobbyist for at least 5 years after you leave Congress?

Yes

No

If not, why not?

PDA Issues

PDA focuses on fundamental issues of concern to voters. The questions are grouped, but all issues are equally important. Your answers to the questions below will be used to help determine whether to endorse you in the race for this office.

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Notice to Candidate:

The questions below refer to legislation introduced by bill number in the 115th Congress. By checking YES as your answer, you pledge that, if elected, you will immediately co-sponsor the reintroduced version of these bills in the 116th Congress.

Presidential Fitness

H.R. 1987 To establish the Oversight Commission on Presidential Capacity, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Rep. Jamie Raskin

Yes

No

If not, why not?? (50 word limit)

I believe the Constitution already has a mechanism for evaluating presidential capacity via the 25th Amendment and via the option to pursue impeachment proceedings. My view is that we do not need another mechanism for evaluating Presidential fitness when one already exists in both the executive branch and within Congress.

Healthcare:

Millions of Americans have no reliable access to health care and millions more have inadequate or overly expensive coverage. Despite spending twice as much as other developed nations on health care, our system performs poorly. Private U.S. insurance gatekeepers soak up one-third of expenditures. Pharmaceutical interests overcharge Americans by avoiding price competition.

H.R. 676 Expanded and Improved Medicare for All Act
Sponsor: Rep. John Conyers

Yes No If not, why not?? (50 word limit)

H.R. 771 Equal Access to Abortion Coverage in Health Insurance
Sponsor: Rep. Barbara Lee

Yes No If not, why not?? (50 word limit)

H.R. 242 Medicare Prescription Drug Price Negotiation Act of 2017
Sponsor: Rep. Peter Welch

Yes No If not, why not?? (50 word limit)

H.R. 1776 Improving Access to Affordable Prescription Drugs
Sponsor: Rep. Jan Schakowsky

Yes No If not, why not?? (50 word limit)

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H.R. 947 Family and Medical Insurance Leave Act (The Family Act) of 2017
Sponsor: Rep. Rosa DeLauro

Yes No If not, why not?? (50 word limit)

H.R. 934 Personal Drug Importation Fairness Act of 2017
Sponsor: Rep. Keith Ellison

Yes No If not, why not?? (50 word limit)

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War and Peace

Terrorism should be treated as a crime, not as a pretext for war and global military expansion. Nuclear weapons are too dangerous to serve the strategic interests of any country and must be abolished. Initiatives to promote peace, disarmament, and the rule of international law will allow the US military budget to return to the 1998 peacetime level. We must bring our troops home to their families and redirect wasteful military spending to reinvest in America.

H.R. 1111 Department of Peacebuilding Act of 2017
Sponsor: Rep. Barbara Lee

Yes No If not, why not?? (50 word limit)

H.R. 1229 Repeal of the Authorization for Use of Military Force
Sponsor: Rep. Barbara Lee

Yes No If not, why not?? (50 word limit)

H.R. 608 Stop Arming Terrorists Act
Sponsor: Rep. Tulsi Gabbard

Yes No If not, why not?? (50 word limit)

H.R. 4867 No Unconstitutional Strike against North Korea Act
Sponsor: Rep. Ro Khana

Yes No If not, why not?? (50 word limit)

H.R. 669 Restricting First Use of Nuclear Weapons Act of 2017
Sponsor: Rep. Ted Lieu

Yes No If not, why not?? (50 word limit)

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Global Warming/The Environment

Environmental degradation and global warming threaten human civilization. Science conclusively demonstrates that global warming results from human activity. Greed and corporate power dominate US policy imposing a nearsighted focus on short term profits instead of serving the welfare of future generations of Americans

H.R. 3671 Off Fossil Fuels for a Better Future Act (OFF Act)
Sponsor: Rep. Tulsi Gabbard

Yes No If not, why not?? (50 word limit)

H.R. 3314 100 by '50 Act
Sponsor: Rep. Jared Polis

Yes No If not, why not?? (50 word limit)

H.R. 2242 Keep it in the Ground Act
Sponsor: Rep. Jared Huffman

Yes No If not, why not?? (50 word limit)

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Election Integrity:

Big-money domination threatens our election system. Incumbents are unfairly insulated by district gerrymandering. Voters face political and racial obstacles to voting and getting their votes counted. Digital voting systems and internet voting are vulnerable to error and manipulation and defy verification. Only an auditable paper ballot can protect our right to vote.

HR 2840 Automatic Voter Registration Act
Sponsor: Rep. David Cicilline

Yes No If not, why not?? (50 word limit)

HJ Res. 74 Constitutional Right to Vote
Sponsor: Rep. Mark Pocan

Yes No If not, why not?? (50 word limit)

HR 1044 Same Day Registration Act of 2017
Sponsor: Rep. Keith Ellison

Yes No If not, why not?? (50 word limit)

HR 607 The Voter Access Protection Act of 2017
Sponsor: Rep. Keith Ellison

Yes No If not, why not?? (50 word limit)

H.R. 12 Voter Empowerment Act of 2017
Sponsor: Rep. John Lewis

Yes No If not, why not?? (50 word limit)

H.R. 787 Streamlined and Improved Methods at Polling Locations and Early (SIMPLE) Voting Act of 2017
Sponsor: Rep. Steve Cohen

Yes No If not, why not?? (50 word limit)

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Economic and Social Justice:

The enormous wealth disparity between the top 1% and the rest of America is an unsustainable economic and social injustice. Will you work for an economic recovery that employs all those willing and able, that houses all those needing shelter, and that imposes the cost based on the ability to pay.

H.R. 1144 Inclusive Prosperity Act of 2017
Sponsor: Rep. Keith Ellison

Yes No If not, why not?? (50 word limit)

H.R. 15 Raise The Wage Act of 2017
Sponsor: Rep. Robert C. "Bobby" Scott

Yes No If not, why not?? (50 word limit)

H.R. 1000 Jobs For All Act
Sponsor: Rep. John Conyers

Yes No If not, why not?? (50 word limit)

H.R. 1902 Social Security Act of 2017
Sponsor: Rep. John Larson

Yes No If not, why not?? (50 word limit)

H.R. 1114 Social Security Expansion Act
Sponsor: **Rep. Peter DeFazio**

Yes No If not, why not?? (50 word limit)

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H.R. 40 Commission to Study Reparation Proposals for African Americans Act
Sponsor: Rep. John Conyers

Yes No If not, why not?? (50 word limit)

H.R. 4396 ME TOO Congress Act
Sponsor: Rep. Jackie Speier

Yes No If not, why not?? (50 word limit)

H.R. 4152 Fair Employment Protection Act of 2017
Sponsor: Rep. Rosa DeLauro

Yes No If not, why not?? (50 word limit)

Do you support, and would you pledge to author and introduce legislation in the House of Representatives identical to current Senate bill as shown below:

S.2165 The Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands Equitable Rebuild Act
Sponsor: Sen. Bernie Sanders

Yes No If not, why not?? (50 word limit)

Do you support, and would you pledge to author and introduce legislation in the House of Representatives identical to current Senate bill as shown below:

S.2095 Assault Weapons Ban of 2017
Sponsor: Sen. Dianne Feinstein

Yes No If not, why not?? (50 word limit)

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EMERGENCY AID FOR NATURAL DISASTERS

The climate change-intensified natural disasters of 2017 have laid bare the federal government's current response as both politicized and racist. How would you identify and legislatively fix underlying structural flaws in federal disaster relief and preparedness funding to ensure more timely, equitable, a effective federal responses to future events? (No more than 250 words)

Given the effects of global climate change we can only expect the frequency and nature of natural disasters to worsen. Yet Republicans have politicized the issue, holding disaster relief funds ransom from states like New York and California while reacting rapidly to crises in red states like Texas. Puerto Rico is yet another example of Republicans injecting partisanship into what should have been addressed as a humanitarian issue, plain and simple.

We must codify a system where politics are removed from the decision-making process when responding to natural disasters. The federal government ought not apportion disaster relief on a case-by-case basis; doing so will make responses subject to politics and regionalism. We need a system where objective criteria (area affected, population density, infrastructure impacted, etc.) are the basis for proportional response. The location and voting habits of the affected area, or the color of peoples' skin therein, should have zero influence in how disaster relief is provided.

Corporate Rule

Big corporations and banks dominant our political process, spending billions to lobby for programs against the public interest, and to privatize public services for profit. This erodes the middle class, destroys vital services, increases poverty, and undermines our nation. Congress must work to return our government to the people, improve services, stand up to corporate lobbyists, and stop the privatization of public services. We need a constitutional amendment to establish that corporations are not people and that money does not equal speech.

H.R. 2585 21st Century Glass-Steagall Act of 2017
Sponsor: Rep. Michael Capuano

Yes No If not, why not?? (50 word limit)

HJ Res 88 Constitutional Amendment to regulate corporations
Sponsor: Rep. Jim McGovern

Yes No If not, why not?? (50 word limit)

HJ Res 31 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relating to contributions and expenditures intended to affect elections
Sponsor: Ted Deutch

Yes No If not, why not?? (50 word limit)

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Mass Criminalization

The United States houses 25% of the world's inmates despite having only 5% of the world's population. The prison industrial complex has a vested interest in keeping people locked up. The growth of private, for-profit prisons has placed incarceration beyond public view. The administration of justice system is prejudiced against the poor and minorities.

H.R. 3227 Justice Is Not For Sale Act
Sponsor: Rep. Raul Grijalva

Yes No If not, why not?? (50 word limit)

H.R. 1498 End Racial Profiling Act of 2017
Sponsor: Rep. John Conyers

Yes No If not, why not?? (50 word limit)

H.R. 65 Youth Prison Reduction through Opportunities, Mentoring, Intervention,
Support and Education (RAISE Act)
Sponsor: Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee

Yes No If not, why not?? (50 word limit)

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Equality Issues

The belief in equality, including religious equality, is a part of the founding documents of our nation and an important part of our national identity. Equality still has not been achieved by most groups in this country. We hope and expect that our endorsed Candidates will sponsor, co-sponsor, and/or support legislation that furthers the reach of equality to any and all groups seeking equal status.

HJ Res 53 Removing the deadline for the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment
Sponsor: Rep. Jackie Speier

Yes No If not, why not?? (50 word limit)

H.R. 1869 Paycheck Fairness
Sponsor: Rep. Rosa DeLauro

Yes No If not, why not?? (50 word limit)

H.R. 489 No Religious Registry Act pf 2017
Sponsor: Rep. Suzan DelBene

Yes No If not, why not?? (50 word limit)

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Immigration

We strongly support Comprehensive Immigration Reform that promotes fairness, equality, labor rights, family unification, integration, a program for legal residency and a path to citizenship for undocumented immigrants.

H.R. 3440 Dream Act of 2017
Sponsor: Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard

Yes No If not, why not?? (50 word limit)

H.R. 1036 American Families United Act
Sponsor: Rep. Beto O'Rourke

Yes No If not, why not?? (50 word limit)

H.R. 1006 To clarify the rights of all persons who are held or detained at a port of entry or at any detention facility overseen by U.S. Customs and Border Protection or U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Sponsor: **Rep.** Pramila Jayapal

Yes No If not, why not?? (50 word limit)

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Education

Education in the USA is unaffordable for the majority of Americans. The securitization of student debt has placed our students at the mercy of corporate predators. Minorities are denied equal access to education. We work to make our education system accessible and affordable to all.

H.R. 1880 College For All Act
Sponsor: Rep. Pramila Jayapal

Yes No If not, why not?? (50 word limit)

H.R. 3630 Student Loan Borrowers' Bill of Rights Act of 2017
Sponsor: Rep. Frederica Wilson

Yes No If not, why not?? (50 word limit)

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General

Please provide us with information in the sections provided below, some information about your campaign:

- Your campaign plan with some *detail*

By my estimate, we need roughly 29,100 votes to finish in the top-two on June 5th. I'm organizing a grassroots campaign that will work to inspire people to the polls.

Orange County is turning blue and I'm the epitome of that change; I'm young - 32 years old - I'm the son of Iranian immigrants, and I'm progressive. If Democrats are to win, they need to turn out young voters, immigrants, and Democrats who don't regularly show up to the polls. Moreover, there are an estimated 40,000 Iranian Americans living in the 45th District. My campaign is registering Iranian Americans and all emerging immigrant communities to vote, we are knocking on their doors, calling their phones, targeting them with advertising, and we will turn them out to vote in the primary and general elections. My campaign has also benefitted from civil society groups and external political initiatives that are specifically targeting young people and Persians for voter registration.

- Your capacity to raise the necessary capital to fund the campaign,

In the first 2 weeks of my campaign I was able to raise nearly \$200,000 from my personal network. Since then, I've been focused on small-dollar donations from progressive communities. If elected, I'd be the first Iranian American ever elected to congress, so many in the Persian community are helping my campaign financially as well.

I am running a grassroots campaign. We won't have the most money, but we will have enough to communicate with voters, to finish in the top two in June, and win in November.

- grassroots support

I'm blessed to have hundreds of activists signed up and helping this campaign. Many of them are Middle Eastern, because this campaign has inspired them realize that now, more than ever, they need to get involved. Donald Trump and Republicans have been vilifying immigrant communities for long enough. Many of my volunteers are involved for the first time because they've had enough and they are looking for a voice to represent them in government.

I consider myself to be the most progressive candidate in this race. I'm reaching out to progressives every day and inspiring them to join my campaign. My message is clear: I'm an experienced progressive who will never back down fighting for Medicare-for-All health care, debt-free college, a minimum \$15 living wage, immigration reform, criminal justice reform, women's rights, human rights, and a forward thinking environmental policy.

- your campaign staff in place

Campaign Manager - Luke Quandt
Finance Director - Jackie Wetzel
Deputy Finance Director - Joubin Khazaie
Organizational Director - Nazanin Asadi Bagheri
Field Director - Britton Burdick

Signature of Candidate

Date

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire.
We believe that an informed electorate is
the greatest assurance of a strong democracy.

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