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info@cairaction.org

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2024

VOTER GUIDE

GENERAL ELECTION Alameda County



CAIR ACTION
CALIFORNIA



CAIR ACTION'S 2024 VOTER GUIDE

WHY THIS ELECTION MATTERS

The 2024 election comes at a critical time for the Muslim community and all those committed to justice, human rights, and peace. This year's elections will not only shape domestic policies but also have profound implications for international issues, particularly regarding the crisis in Palestine and surrounding countries.

In addition, rising Islamophobia continues to threaten the safety, rights, and dignity of Muslims in the U.S. and around the world. The positions that candidates take on these issues—Palestine, Islamophobia, and broader justice concerns—are at the heart of our evaluation for this voter guide.

Their stances on a ceasefire, supporting an arms embargo, fighting anti-Muslim bigotry, and other social justice issues have heavily influenced the determination of our support levels for candidates.

In a time when elections can be won by narrow margins, your vote is crucial. Through this Voter Guide, CAIR Action seeks to empower you with information about candidates and where they stand on the issues that matter most. We have carefully evaluated candidates based on their track record, policy positions, and their alignment with the principles of justice, inclusivity, and positive change.

YOUR VOTE MATTERS!

This election has far-reaching consequences, especially in state and local races that could be decided by just a few votes. Your vote is a powerful tool in shaping a future grounded in justice, peace, and equality for all. Use this guide to cast an informed vote that reflects your values, and stand up for a world where human rights are upheld, from Gaza to your local community.

Together, we can build a future that reflects our shared values of justice, compassion, and equality.



OUR SUPPORT LEVELS

To help you make informed choices at the ballot box, we've developed a clear framework for our levels of candidate support. Here's how we assess candidates and determine our recommendations:

ENDORSED

These candidates strongly align with our values, having demonstrated a commitment to justice and positive change. This may include support for a ceasefire in Palestine or an arms embargo to Israel. They also oppose Islamophobia and have a strong record promoting civil rights and human dignity.

PREFERRED

These candidates are generally favorable but may not fully align with our positions on critical issues, however, they represent a better alternative to candidates who actively harm these causes.

OPPOSE

These candidates have taken harmful stances, including supporting the violence in Gaza and opposing a ceasefire. They may also have a record of Islamophobic rhetoric or policies. We strongly recommend voting against these candidates.

NO ENDORSEMENT

This rating is given when there is insufficient information about a candidate's position or when their positions do not align enough to warrant our support.



PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT

CAIR Action, along with the American Muslim Taskforce for the 2024 election, recommends that Muslims vote for candidates who support ceasefire, arms embargo, and other just policies, such as Dr. Jill Stein (G), Dr. Cornel West (J), or Chase Oliver (L).

US SENATE

CANDIDATE	CAIR ACTION POSITION	REASON
Adam Schiff (D)	No Endorsement	While he has cosponsored "Access to Counsel Act", "Renewing Immigration Provisions", and "Recognizing Ramadan" bills, he voted on numerous funding bills for Israel and has historically supported surveillance bills.
Steve Garvey (R)	No Endorsement	Called ceasefire protesters terrorists. Says " Hamas does not deserve a ceasefire." Not aligned on issues.

US CONGRESS

OFFICE	CANDIDATE	CAIR ACTION POSITION	REASON
Congressional District 10	Mark Desaulnier (D)	Endorse	Supported a ceasefire early on, voted against all recent funding bills for Israel, the anti-semitism bill, and to censure Rep. Tlaib. Voted for Access to Counsel act and Renewing Immigration Provisions bill.
Congressional District 12	Lateefah Simon (D)	Endorse	Supportive of community issues like ceasefire, civil rights, police, housing, and inclusion.
Congressional District 14	Vin Kruttiventi (R)	No Endorsement	Not aligned on immigration, police, and military issues.
Congressional District 14	Eric Swalwell (D)	No Endorsement	While he co-sponsor some positive bills, he has not called for an immediate ceasefire nor an arms embargo, and voted on problematic bills such as H.R. 6090 (censors political speech critical of Israel on college campuses)
Congressional District 17	Ro Khanna (D)	Endorse	Spoken on issues of importance to community, such as Gaza and an Israeli arms embargo. Co-sponsored bills relating to immigration, Ramadan, Muslim Heritage month, and combatting Islamophobia. Needs consistent supportive messaging.



STATE SENATE

OFFICE	CANDIDATE	CAIR ACTION POSITION	REASON
State Senate District 5	Jerry McNerney (D)	Endorse	Has a long history of supporting human rights issues, including HR 2590 - Opposing funding military prisons for Palestinian children.
State Senate District 7	Jovanka Beckles (D)	Endorse	Fully supports issues important to the community like ceasefire, divestment, privacy, and helping working families.
State Senate District 9	Marisol Rubio (D)	Endorse	Fully supports issues important to the community like ceasefire, divestment, privacy, and helping working families.

STATE ASSEMBLY

Assembly District 14	Margot Smith (D)	Prefer	Supports progressive policies on housing, police, labor, and the environment. Asm. Wicks voted for SB 1277 (biased genocide teaching), SB 1287 (anti-encampment/protests), and AB 2925 (biased discrimination teaching) despite community opposition.
Assembly District 16	Rebecca Bauer-Kahan (D)	No Recommendation	Co-authored SB 1277 (biased genocide teaching) and SB 1287 (anti-encampment/protests), and voted yes on AB 2925 (biased discrimination teaching) despite community opposition.
Assembly District 16	Joseph Rubay (R)	No Recommendation	He supports Israel and is against the ceasefire protests and the encampments.
Assembly District 18	Mia Bonta (D)	No Recommendation	Voted for SB 1277 (biased genocide teaching), SB 1287 (anti-encampment/protests), and AB 2925 (biased discrimination teaching) despite community opposition. Has not publically called for a ceasefire.
Assembly District 18	Andre Sandford (I)	No Recommendation	While we are aligned on prison reform, education, and housing, we disagree on policing issues.
Assembly District 20	Liz Ortega (D)	Endorse	Abstained from SB 1277 (biased genocide teaching), SB 1287 (anti-encampment/protests), and AB 2925 (biased discrimination teaching). Aligned on civil rights issues.
Assembly District 24	Alex Lee (D)	Prefer	Supported Ceasefire early and Palestinian/Muslim issues, authored AB 1503 (excused religious absences) and abstained from SB 1287 (anti-encampment/protests). Because of his vote for SB 1277 (biased genocide teaching) and AB 2925 (biased discrimination teaching), this earned him a "Prefer" rather than "Endorse".



COUNTY			
District Attorney Recall	Shall Pamela Price be recalled (removed) from the office of District Attorney?	No	Wealthy special interests have funded this recall effort to remove a progressive, pro-reform, pro-ceasefire DA and ally.
Board of Supervisors District 5	Nikki Fortunato Bas	Endorse	Championed Oakland Ceasefire Resolution, strongly aligned on labor, police accountability, and housing issues.

CITY COUNCIL

ALBANY CITY COUNCIL

Preston Jordan	Endorse
Aaron Tiedeman	Endorse

ALAMEDA CITY COUNCIL

Michele Pryor	Endorse
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BERKELEY MAYOR

Kate Harrison	Endorse (#1)
Adena Ishii	Prefer 2

BERKELEY CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 2

Jenny Guarino	Endorse
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BERKELEY CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 3

John "Chip" Moore	Endorse
Ben Bartlett	Prefer 2

BERKELEY CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 5

Nilang Gor	Prefer
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BERKELEY RENT BOARD

Avery Arbaugh	Endorse
Xavier Johnson	Endorse
Dominique Walker	Endorse
Alfred Twu	Endorse

DUBLIN MAYOR

Sherry Hu	Prefer
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DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 1

Michael Mccorriston	Endorse
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DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 3

Razi Hasni	Endorse
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FREMONT MAYOR

Vinnie Bacon	Endorse
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EMERYVILLE CITY COUNCIL

Mia Brown	Endorse
Calvin Dillahunty	Endorse



CITY COUNCIL (CONT.)

HAYWARD CITY COUNCIL

Angela Andrews	Endorse
Daniel Goldstein	Endorse
Francisco Zermeno	Endorse

NEWARK MAYOR

Jason Miguel	Prefer
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NEWARK CITY COUNCIL - FULL TERM

Julie Del Catancio	Prefer
Terrence Grindall	Endorse

NEWARK CITY COUNCIL-SHORT TERM

Lucia Gutierrez	Endorse
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OAKLAND AT-LARGE COUNCILMEMBER

Rowena Brown	Endorse (#1)
Charlene Wang	Prefer (#2)

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 1

Zac Unger	Endorse
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OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 3

Carroll Fife	Endorse
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OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 5

Erin Armstrong	Endorse (#1)
Noel Gallo	Prefer (#2)

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 7

Iris Merriouns	Endorse (#1)
Merika Goolsby	Prefer (#2)

OAKLAND CITY ATTORNEY

Ryan Richardson	Prefer
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PLEASANTON MAYOR

Jack Balch	Prefer
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PLEASANTON CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 2

Craig Eicher	Prefer
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SAN LEANDRO CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 2

Bryan Azevedo	Endorse
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SAN LEANDRO CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 6

Robert Bulatao	Endorse
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UNION CITY COUNCIL MAYOR

Emily Duncan	Endorse
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UNION CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 1

Lance Nishihira Duncan	Endorse
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LOCAL POSITIONS

ALAMEDA COUNTY WATER DISTRICT 5

Aziz Akbari	Endorse
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AC TRANSIT WARD 6 DIRECTOR

Jesse Gunn	Endorse
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EAST BAY PARK DISTRICT 2 DIRECTOR

Casey Farmer	Endorse
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ORO LOMA SANITARY DISTRICT DIRECTOR

Moira "mimi" Dean	Endorse
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AC TRANSIT WARD 6 DIRECTOR

Jesse Gunn	Prefer
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EAST BAY PARK DISTRICT 4 DIRECTOR

Luana Espana	Endorse
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SCHOOL BOARD

ALBANY USD

Jolene Gazmen	Endorse
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Veronica Davidson	Endorse
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BERKELEY USD

Ana Vasudeo	Prefer
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Jen Corn	Prefer
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FREMONT USD

Ganesh Balamitran	Endorse
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HAYWARD USD

Austin Bruckner Carrillo	Endorse
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NEW HAVEN USD DISTRICT 1

Pat Urbi	Endorse
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NEW HAVEN USD DISTRICT 2

Melanie Freeberg	Endorse
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NEW HAVEN USD DISTRICT 3

Michael Gonzales	Endorse
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OAKLAND BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 3

VanCedric Williams	Endorse
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OAKLAND BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICT 5

Sasha Ritzie-Hernandez	Endorse
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PLEASANTON USD DISTRICT 3

Kelly Mokashi	Prefer
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BALLOT MEASURES

CITY OF ALBANY

MEASURE	TITLE	CAIR ACTION POSITION	REASON
Measure S	Appointed City Manager Amendment	Support	It streamlines city management while maintaining important checks and balances.
Measure V	Lower Voting Age for Municipal and School District Elections	Support	It empowers younger voters to participate in the democratic process, fosters civic engagement, and ensures that vital perspectives are represented.

CITY OF BERKELEY

MEASURE	TITLE	CAIR ACTION POSITION	REASON
Measure BB	Housing Retention and Tenant Rights Enhancement	Support	It uses existing revenue to strengthen housing retention and homelessness prevention efforts.
Measure CC	Rent Control Modifications and Rent Fund Creation	Oppose	It prioritizes landlord interests over tenant protections, potentially exacerbating housing insecurity and undermining affordable housing efforts
Measure DD	Prohibition on Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO)	Support	CAFOs confine large numbers of animals in industrial conditions, causing suffering, pollution, and disease.



BALLOT MEASURES (CONT.)

CITY OF DUBLIN

MEASURE	TITLE	CAIR ACTION POSITION	REASON
Measure JJ	Government Accountability and Transparency Amendments	Support	It reduces influence from special interests, ensures fresh perspectives in leadership through term limits, and promotes public oversight

CITY OF OAKLAND

MEASURE	TITLE	CAIR ACTION POSITION	REASON
Measure OO	Ethics Commission and Lobbying Rules Amendment	Support	It reduces corruption, increases transparency, and ensures that government officials act in the best interest of the community.

CITY OF RICHMOND

MEASURE	TITLE	CAIR ACTION POSITION	REASON
Measure J	The Richmond Majority Vote Initiative	Support	It ensures that Richmond city council candidates and the mayor receive a majority of at least 50% of the vote before taking office, which enhances democratic representation for Richmond residents.
Measure L	Ranked Choice Voting	Support	Ranked choice voting improves representation by allowing voters to rank candidates, reducing vote splitting and ensuring elected officials have broader support.

STATE PROPOSITIONS

PROPOSITION	TITLE	CAIR ACTION POSITION	REASON
Proposition 6	Remove Involuntary Servitude as Punishment for Crime	Support	Incarcerated individuals should be treated with dignity and not forced into labor. It undermines criminal justice reform, and is a remnant of slavery-era policies.
Proposition 36	Increase Drug and Theft Penalties and Reduce Homelessness Initiative	Oppose	<p>Proposition 36 has a:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Disproportionate impact on communities of color - Undermines criminal justice reform - Does not focus on rehabilitation - Exacerbates mass incarceration - Causes economic and social harm



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