Candidate Questionnaire 2015

Instructions: Please return questionnaire via email, fax, or mail:

Email: JamesParrish@EVAdvocates.org
Fax: 804-643-1554
Mail: 530 East Main St Suite 600
Richmond, VA 23219

Purpose: Thank you for taking the time to fill out the Equality Virginia Advocates candidate questionnaire. The questionnaire will help our supporters, the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) community, and its allies know where candidates stand on issues important to them. Your returned questionnaire will also serve as part of the evaluation process for EVPAC's Board in regards to endorsements.

Publication: Your answers are "on the record" and will be circulated to all members of the EVPAC Board, and may be shared outside the organization and published to the EV Advocates website.

Candidate and Campaign Information:

Name: B. Jill McCabe

Address: PO Box 4332, Ashburn, VA 20148

Phone: 703-687-2247

Email: jillmccabeforsenate@gmail.com

Campaign Website: www.drjillmccabe.com

Campaign Manager: Kyle Sutton

Campaign Manager Phone/Email: 616-828-9160, kyle@jillmccabeforsenate.com

Race and Election Information

Office Sought: Virginia State Senate – 13th District

City, County or District of office:

Select One: __x__ Challenger ____ Incumbent ____Open Seat

Positions

A. Equality Virginia asks all General Assembly members to sign a statement that they do not discriminate in their office based on sexual orientation or gender identity. If you are an incumbent, have you signed EV's nondiscrimination statement [check here]? If you are not, will you sign the nondiscrimination statement if elected? Please include other actions you and your office take to create an open and inclusive workplace for gay and transgender employees.

My campaign does not discriminate on any basis. If elected, I would continue that policy — and I would announce that policy by signing your non-discrimination pledge.

B. Please describe your level of support for the following issues that are legislative priorities for Equality Virginia.

1. **Protecting public employees from discrimination based on their real or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity.**

   I believe all Virginians deserve equal rights and equal treatment; I would add that employees in particular should be judged based on the quality of their work — not based on details of their personal lives or identities. Therefore, I strongly support this policy. Assuming Sen. McEachin or Sen. Ebbin introduces a non-discrimination bill in next year's session, I will seek to co-patron it. If for some reason neither of them were to introduce such a bill, I would gladly carry it myself. While I would of course defer to members of the LGBT community in terms of what kind of bill to advance, I would add that I hope eventually to see similar protections instituted in the private sector, as well.

2. **Ensuring that LGBT Virginians have equal access to public accommodations and housing.**

   For reasons explained above, I would strongly support this policy. Housing discrimination, like employment discrimination, has no moral or practical justification. It should not be permitted.

C. Please describe your level of support for the following issues that are important to EV and Virginia's lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and allied community.

1. **Banning "conversion therapy" practiced on LGBT minors.**

I strongly oppose the use of "conversion therapy" on minors. Individuals should be the sole custodians of their own gender identities and sexual orientations. It is not the role of parents or guardians to make these decisions for their children. As a pediatrician, I have seen firsthand the pain that can be experienced by adolescents who are trying to understand their sexual orientation without the support of loved ones.

2. **Protecting all LGBT Virginians from discrimination in the workplace.**

   As explained above, I believe there is no moral or practical justification for employment discrimination in either the public or private sector, and I would support legislation to prevent it.

3. **Removing the Marshall Newman Marriage Amendment from the Virginia Constitution.**

   If elected, I will co-sponsor and champion repeal efforts. At both the state and federal levels, our statutes should fully accord with the Supreme Court's recent marriage equality decision — in both the spirit and the letter.

D. Provide any additional information regarding your involvement in or support for the LGBT community.

I am proud to be the medical director of four departments at Inova Loudoun Hospital, where I lead a diverse staff of professionals who work together every day with the common goal of saving lives and mending injuries. Additionally, as a partner with Commonwealth Emergency Physicians, we do not discriminate, either in terms of whom we hire or whom we treat; what matters is that we help all those who need it. I would like to bring those same values and priorities to the General Assembly, and I would be honored to have your support.

Thank you for completing this questionnaire. If you have any questions, please contact Equality Virginia Advocates at 804-643-4816 or JamesParrish@EVAdvocates.org.