



**Candidate Questionnaire 2017**

**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: Stephen E. Heretick  
Address: 715 Loudoun Avenue, Portsmouth, Virginia 23707  
Phone: (757) 397-9923  
Email: Steve@Hereticklaw.com; DelSHeretick@House.virginia.gov  
Campaign Website: SteveHeretickforDelegate.com  
Campaign Manager: Joseph Waymack  
Campaign Manager Phone/Email: (757) 397-9923, JosephWaymack@gmail.com

**Race and Election Information**

Office Sought: Delegate, 79th House District of Virginia

City, County or District of office:

Select One:  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.

I have signed the nondiscrimination statement, and fully subscribe to it!

- 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 have consistently and proudly voted to protect the civil rights of all Virginians from all forms of discrimination based upon their sexual orientation or gender identity.

2. **Protecting LGBT Virginians from discrimination in housing.**

I have consistently and proudly voted to protect the civil rights of LGBTQ Virginians from all forms of discrimination in housing.

3. **Protecting LGBT Virginians from discrimination in public accommodations.**

I have consistently and proudly voted to protect the civil rights of LGBTQ Virginians from all forms of discrimination in public accommodations.

- 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 completely support a ban against "conversion therapy" from being involuntarily forced on any Virginian, especially minors, and I believe that practitioners of such "therapy" should be subject to professional discipline, including loss of professional licensure, for promulgating this form of discrimination in the guise of treatment.

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

I have consistently supported affording all LGBTQ Virginians freedom from discrimination or disparate treatment.

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

The Marshall-Newman Marriage Amendment is unconstitutional and illegal. This amendment should be removed from Virginia's constitution, and all similar language should be removed from the Code of Virginia.

**4. Support for policies in Virginia's public schools protecting students, teachers, and staff from discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity.**

I completely support all policies which offer protections for LGBTQ Virginians in our educational system.

**5. Opposition to religious exemption bills that exceed the constitutional protection of freedom of religion and provide a license to discriminate against LGBT people.**

I have voted consistently to oppose any bill which legalizes discrimination against LGBTQ Virginians in any form, or which would allow public discrimination to exist in the guise of "religious freedom".

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

I am proud to stand with the LGBTQ community as a full partner in its efforts to recognize and establish full civil rights for all Virginians. Virginia has a long and shameful history of institutionalized discrimination, and it is apparent that the challenges of civil rights for all remain before us. I have long been supportive of the LGBTQ community as an attorney, as a city council member, and now as a member of the Virginia House of Delegates. My voting record speaks for itself, as do the public stances I have taken so proudly and for so long in support of Equality Virginia's issues.