



Equality Virginia Advocates

Candidate Questionnaire for 2019 Statewide Elections

www.evadvocates.org

Candidate & Campaign

Name: Larry Barnett

Campaign Website: barnett4delegate.com

Office Sought: VA House of Delegates District 27

Locality: Midlothian

Candidate Type: Challenger

Candidate Answers

1. Do you support legislation protecting Virginians from discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity:
 - For Employment: Yes
 - For Housing: Yes
 - For Public Accommodations: Yes



2. Please describe your level of support for the following issues that are important to Equality Virginia and Virginia's LGBTQ and Allied community:

- Banning sexual orientation and gender identity change efforts practiced on minors by licensed professionals: Strongly support. We've also seen several states ban the damaging and discredited practice of "conversion therapy" that claims to change or repress a person's sexual orientation, or gender identity. As a mental health professional, I think it's time for the General Assembly to take similar actions.
- Support for affirming policies in Virginia's public schools for LGBTQ students: Strongly support. We don't accept workplace harassment in our businesses, and students shouldn't have to accept bullying in the classroom. Clear policies are needed to promote a safe environment for all students at school.
- Opposition to religious exemption bills that exceed the constitutional protection of freedom of religion and provide a license to discriminate against LGBTQ people: I do not support so-called "Religious Freedom Bills" that promote discrimination under the guise of religious freedom. Businesses that serve the public need to be open to all.



- Removing the Marshall Newman Marriage Amendment from the Virginia Constitution: Strongly support. I've been married for more than 30 years. When I decided to propose to Pat, my wife, it was in part because I wanted our love and commitment to be recognized by our family, friends, and neighbors. The same motivation drove my brother Chris to marry his husband, Reinhold. Repealing this ineffectual and outdated law would send a message to people, like my brother, that Virginia is welcome to all and ready to embrace a diverse and vibrant community.

Provide any additional information regarding your involvement in or support for the LGBTQ community: I have supported Side by Side (formerly ROSMY) with contributions and routinely connected young people and their families with this organization.

I also worked as a trainer and am a lifetime legacy member of the Virginia Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Action Alliance (formerly Virginians Against Domestic Violence), which also strives to equally serve all people, regardless of sexual orientation, race, and gender identity.