



Equality Virginia Advocates

Candidate Questionnaire for 2019 Statewide Elections

www.evadvocates.org

Candidate & Campaign

Name: Elizabeth Guzman

Campaign Website: elizabethguzmanforvirginia.com

Office Sought: House of Delegates

Locality: Woodbridge/Dale City

Candidate Type: Incumbent

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: I completely oppose any gender therapy, procedures, or exercises that seek to change someone's natural sexual or gender orientation, other than recognized medical procedures. I believe 100% that anyone should be allowed to live as they are and treated with dignity and respect. Conversion therapies are bad for our children, and have led to high incidents of bullying and suicide. I will oppose any legislation that advances such agenda, and invite my fellow legislators and partners to fight against it.
- Support for affirming policies in Virginia's public schools for LGBTQ students: Our schools should be empowered to protect students and ensure any LGBTQ student is allowed to attend a safe and productive learning environment. When I voted to increase the number of guidance counselors, I believed that more staff and support would also help give students outlets to talk about their school experiences, including discriminated and at-risk groups. I also believe that LGBTQ students should have the ability to form GSA's and other LGBTQ friendly organizations that support LGBTQ students, and provide safe spaces to discuss issues important to these students.



- Opposition to religious exemption bills that exceed the constitutional protection of freedom of religion and provide a license to discriminate against LGBTQ people: I believe that any religious exemption bills are just other licenses to discriminate under the banner of religious belief. No one should be allowed to use their faith or deeply held beliefs to discriminate against another person, or deny them freedoms under the Constitution. I will work with members of my caucus to reject any religious freedom bills, and uphold constitutional protections and liberties for the LGBTQ community in Virginia.
- Removing the Marshall Newman Marriage Amendment from the Virginia Constitution: The Marshall Newman Amendment is a hold over of pre-Obergefell LGBTQ rights, when Virginia became the latest state to ban gay marriage. Everyone has the right to marry who they want, and that should be reflected in our state constitution. I will support a bill to repeal the Amendment, so that Virginia can be a place where everyone is treated with dignity and respect.

Provide any additional information regarding your involvement in or support for the LGBTQ community: